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Beachcomber

Feb. 6-Mar. 4, 2020

BeachcomberDestin.com



FOOD

A Stress-Free
Valentine's Dinner
PAGE 13

PETS

Our New Pet Events
Listings
PAGE 22

MUSIC

The Evolution of
The Southern Gothic
PAGE 26

LOCAL

Destin High School
Moves Forward
PAGE 10

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IN THIS ISSUE

Cover Story
Sandestin Gumbo Festival 5

Carl Hiaasen
NO! We Are NOT Letting Your Emotional-Support
Wombat on the Plane!..... 6

Tuesday with Mitch
Sorry Seems to Be the Easiest Word in an
Election Year..... 7

A Local's Perspective
By Charles Morgan III 9

Local Beat
Energy Flows, Donations Increase as Destin High
School Moves Closer to Reality..... 10

Outdoors
The Beachcomber Fishing Report..... 11
Beach Warning Flags 11
Destin East Pass Tide & Sunset Chart 11

Food + Beverage
A Weekend of Tequila and Tacos Comes to Seascap
Towne Centre in March 12
Jane Cooks For You: Who's in for Valentine's Dinner? 13
Marlin Grill: An "Escape from Your Normal Life" at
Baytowne Wharf..... 14
Restaurant Guide 15
Happy Hours..... 18

Health + Fitness
Let's Get It Started 19

Events
Events Calendar 20

Pets
Adopt, Don't Shop! Jake the Dog..... 22
Pet of the Issue: Hubert 22
Upcoming Pet Events 22

Faith..... 23

People
Dear Prudence: You Are Cordially Invited to
Meditate..... 24

Places to Go
Antiques, Beach Science, Golf, Marine Parks,
Museums, Music Stores, Parks & Public Beach
Access, Thrift Stores 22

Music
They Tell Us That It's Evolution...
The Southern Gothic 26
Rob Romans Picks the 10 Most Romantic Songs..... 27
Upcoming Music Releases 27
The Listening Room: Records, Podcasts and More 28
Podcast Roundup 29
Live Music Calendar 29

Books
Recommended Reading..... 33
Book Clubs..... 33
Amazon Charts..... 33
Upcoming Book Releases 33

Movies + TV
Oscars, Schmoscars...Here Are This Year's
Biggest Snubs 34
What's on TV This Month..... 34
Upcoming Theatrical Releases..... 34
Local Film Screenings 34
Upcoming DVD Releases 35

Stage
Upcoming Stage Shows...and More 35

#beachcomberdestin..... 36

Art
Art Classes & Workshops..... 37
Art Events 37
Art Galleries..... 37
Call to Artists..... 38

Answer This!
Valentine's Day, Winter Power Washing,
and Weird Emails 38

Horrorscopes 39

Index to Beachcomber Advertisers 39

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ON OUR COVER:



Sandestin Gumbo &
Bloody Mary Festival
Feb. 14 & 15
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin
More on Page ?
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Opening Remarks

Thank You, Leap Day!

Not only did February 2020 bring us 02/20/2020, the first Palindrome Day in ages—and the last for another hundred-plus years—the so-called Leap Day, Feb. 29, has at last converged to make the remainder of this year as perfect as you could ever imagine.

Or maybe the stars aligned perfectly or something to that effect.

The following tidbits have appeared ad nauseum on the Internet, in memes ranging from poorly designed to really poorly designed. *The Beachcomber* is proud to be the first and only publication to include this valuable information in print form.

Valentine's Day is on a Friday. That's Feb. 14, fellas. Write it down. Add it to your Google Calendar. Set an Alexa reminder. Set another Alexa reminder.

For Pete's sake, do NOT forget. If you do, you will be reminded for the rest of your soon-to-be-short life.

Cinco De Mayo falls on Taco Tuesday. We can only hope that the Beachcomber Music Awards Hall of Famers Cadillac Willy will be performing at La Paz in Destin that night. Happily, our music insider tells me the guys are already being fitted for sombreros.

FYI, that's **May 5**, the same day as my late, great father's birthday. So I'll be doing Taco Tuesday with the Willies and listening to Frankie Ford's "Sea Cruise"—Dad's all-time favorite record—nonstop. Is it too late to ask the band to work up a 17-minute jam band arrangement?

July 4 is on a Saturday. Now my doggies can be terrified by fireworks well into the early-to-mid-morning hours Sunday!

Halloween is on a Saturday. Never mind that most of the kiddies and grownups wouldn't have called in sick from school and work, anyway.

Christmas is on Friday. Which puts Christmas Eve on Thursday and Returns Day on Saturday. Isn't math fun, kids?

The New Year starts with a three-day weekend! January 1, 2021 falls on a Friday, so no matter what goes south this year—and I'm still highly optimistic—the next one is going to be the best ever!

Love,
Editor Manson

YOUR THOUGHTS AND COMMENTS

I just wanted to reach out and say thank you so much for helping our fight against cancer. We signed more members up to our Fort Walton Beach team and raised over \$700 at our kickoff event.

We really couldn't have done that without your help in spreading the word. I wanted to say how much we appreciate you posting our event.

- Shelley Hicks, 2020 Fort Walton
Beach Relay for Life Market

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Sandestin Gumbo Festival...

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

FRIDAY, FEB. 14

SEAFOOD BOIL KICKOFF PARTY
Hammerheads Bar & Grille, The Village of Baytowne Wharf, 5-7 PM
The popular Village eatery gets things started with a delicious seafood boil.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15

THE MAIN EVENT
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Starting at Noon
Sample a variety of gumbo and vote your favorite as the People's Choice winner. Dark or light roux? Chicken, sausage or seafood? Celebrity judges will name the area's best.

Gulf Coast restaurants will be featured along with live music from **Dikki Du and the Zydeco Krewe** and children's activities.

The Best Bloody Marys at The Beach competition is back, too. Sponsored by Bombora Vodka, taste some of the finest bars' and restaurants' Bloody Marys on the coast and *you* get to be the judge!

Event will happen rain or shine.



ACCOMODATIONS

Rates start at just \$89 per night (use code GUM-BO). Rates and package valid for event weekend only. Package includes admission to Saturday's Main Event. Based on availability and valid for select accommodations throughout the resort.

Restrictions may apply. Not valid on existing reservations or combined with any other discounts or offers. The \$89 rate does not include taxes, fees or discounted Gumbo ticket price of \$15 per person.

Get your tickets and discover more at SandestinGumboFestival.com.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

I have my ticket, now what?
You are in for a fun day. Upon entering the outdoor festival, you will receive a wristband and Taster's Guide. Tents will be placed throughout the Village featuring restaurants. Each tent will have disposable sample cups and spoons for gumbo. Roam from tent to tent, make notes and vote for People's Choice.

What if I don't want to buy a ticket?
The Village of Baytowne Wharf is always open to the public. Those participating in the tasting will receive wristbands to distinguish from other guests.

Could this event sell out?
YES!

- ## THIS YEAR'S PARTICIPANTS*
- Mama Clemenza's European Breakfast
 - CHL Signature Catering of 30-A
 - Harry T's
 - Hurricane Oyster Bar & Grill
 - Boathouse Oyster Bar
 - Slick Lips Seafood & Oyster House
 - Carlito's
 - Tail Fins
 - Sunset Bay Café
 - Burnt Pine Golf Club at Sandestin
 - Local Life USA
 - Marina Bar & Grill
 - System Service & Engineering
 - Another Broken Egg Café
 - Royal Palm Grille
 - Marlin Grill
 - Poppy's Seafood Factory
 - Old Florida Fish House
 - Bijoux Restaurant + Spirits
 - Roberto's Pizzeria
 - Bubba Gump Shrimp Co.
 - John Wehner's Village Door
 - Café NOLA

*Up to date at press time.



“NO! We Are NOT Letting Your Emotional-Support Wombat on the Plane!”

By Carl Hiaasen, Tribune Content Agency

Regulators are finally cracking down on passengers who bring household pets on commercial flights and claim they are “emotional-support animals.”

Under proposed rules unveiled recently, airlines would no longer have to accept rabbits, pigs, cats and other untrained critters that are supposedly essential to the psychological well-being of their human owners.

The scam has become a headache—and liability risk—for airlines. Innocent passengers and flight attendants have been bitten or otherwise injured in the main cabin by roaming animals, not all of which exhibit control of their digestive functions.

In recent years, assorted nitwits have tried to board commercial flights with emotional-support ducks, turkeys, non-frozen Florida iguanas, flatulent pot-bellied pigs and a freaking peacock. In some cases, they’ve actually made it onto the plane.

According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, “Disability advocates have voiced concerns that the use of these unusual service animals on aircraft erodes the public’s trust and confidence in service animals.”

No kidding. It makes a charade of an important benefit designed for those with real needs.

Airlines have struggled to adjust their policies to deal with the huge surge in

passengers with emotional-support animals, mostly dogs and cats. The government requires no special training for such pets, but the new DOT rules would change that.

If approved, they would limit the definition of “service animal” to cover only canines that are professionally trained to perform tasks for persons with documented physical or mental disabilities.

That’s unwelcome news for the many non-disabled dog owners who’ve been buying “Service” or “Emotional Support” animal vests (\$13 to \$35 on Amazon), scamming medical notes out of gullible therapists and appearing at the airport presenting their family pooches as legitimate service dogs.

It’s an epidemic that the flight attendants’ union and Airlines for America, the major industry trade group, have been warning about for a long time.

Once, waiting to board a flight from West Palm Beach to New York, I counted 11 vest-wearing dogs, most of them suspiciously small and manifesting no special training whatsoever.

One of the owners took his barking bogus service animal to the men’s room to let it pee—I’m dead serious—in a urinal. The dog broke away from him and immediately bit a young boy, whose father called the police.

After our plane took off (minus the biter), a woman sitting behind me headed for the lavatory toting her football-sized “service” companion. The flight attendant stopped her in the aisle but gave up after the woman

started fussing.

“I can’t leave him alone! He can’t be alone!” she yipped, referring to the perplexed, heavily sedated hairball she was holding.

Many frequent flyers have creepier animal encounters.

I own a big Labrador that, if garbed in an official-looking vest, could easily pass for an actual service dog. His skill set peaks at fetching a palm frond, but he’s friendly, doesn’t bark and wouldn’t need a doggy Valium to get through a long flight.

He does OK in the cargo hold of a 737, but nobody who loves their pet is thrilled about transporting it that way. I get that. Also, cargo-class costs money, which is a big reason Amazon sells so many Emotional Support Animal vests.

They do not fit on snakes or birds, and they don’t belong on many of the other animals now wearing them. Just because a pet makes you feel better—and don’t they all?—it’s not automatically entitled to ride with you in coach, or hang out at the Cinnabon on Concourse D.

The public has 60 days to comment on the DOT’s proposed revisions. Interestingly, they extend existing flight privileges beyond qualified dogs to a mammal you seldom find in the TSA line: miniature horses.

These little dudes aren’t merely cute: They can learn to do specific tasks for owners with disabilities. The government hasn’t officially recognized

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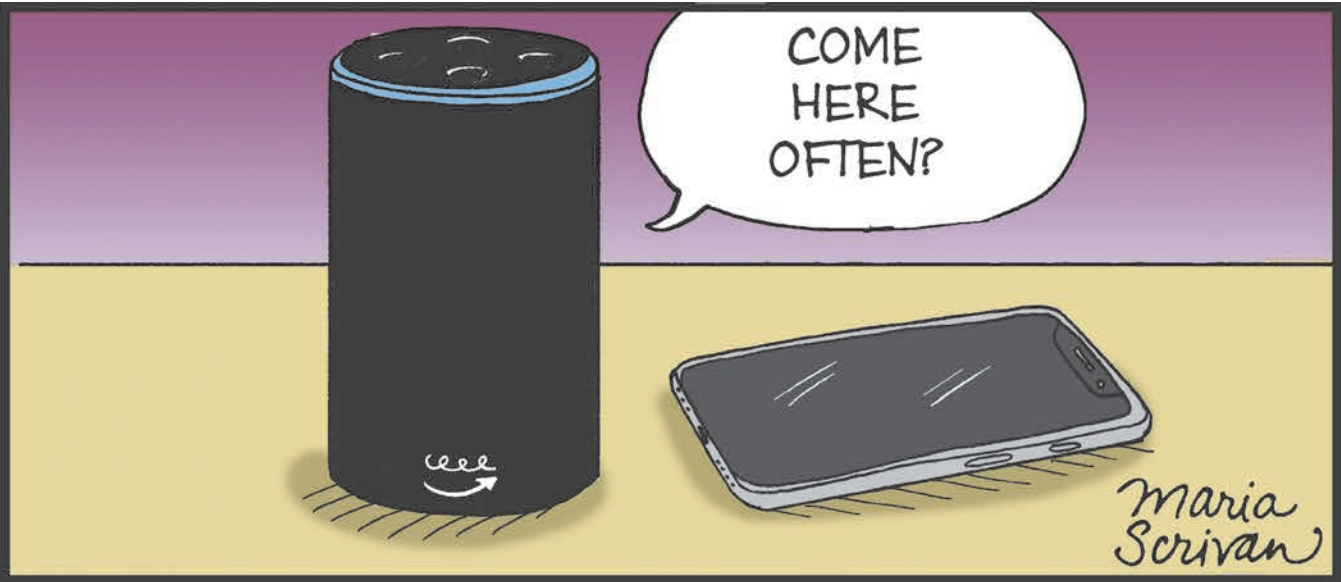
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Sorry Seems to Be the Easiest Word in an Election Year

By Mitch Albom, Tribune Content Agency

It's only taken three weeks, but I think I know what 2020 will be the year of:

Apologies.

They're coming fast and furious. Celebrities. Politicians. Teachers. Corporations. Countries. Even churches—which, ironically, is where you used to go to apologize.

I base my prediction on recent trends. Here is just a small list of apologies that we have heard since last summer.

Iran apologized for shooting down a plane.

Actress Rose McGowan apologized to Iran.

A Georgia lawmaker apologized for saying Democrats are "in love with terrorists."

A Michigan lawmaker apologized for saying male high school students "could have a lot of fun" with a young female reporter.

Talk show host Wendy Williams apologized for mocking Joaquin Phoenix's looks.

Joaquin Phoenix apologized for outtakes from *Joker* that were shown on a talk show.

An airline in Hong Kong apologized for making a woman take a

pregnancy test before she got on an airplane.

Walmart apologized for using deceased actor Paul Walker in a tweet.

A Buffalo-based food truck operator apologized for sending food to a detention center. Then, a week later, it apologized for apologizing.

Even Greta Thunberg, the 16-year-old climate change activist, apologized for a comment that sounded like a threat against her detractors.

And she was *Time* magazine's Person of The Year.

WE APOLOGIZE FOR EVERYTHING

Speaking of time, it apparently has no bearing on when you have to apologize.

Pop star Camilla Cabello apologized for old posts.

Singer Shawn Mendes apologized for old tweets.

A Philadelphia acting police commissioner apologized for an offensive T-shirt she wore—in the 1990s.

Canada's prime minister apologized for wearing blackface in 2001.

New Zealand's prime minister apologized for the government's handling of a plane crash—40 years ago!

And actress Rosanna Arquette actually tweeted she was sorry for being "born white."

Can't go back much further than that.

On Instagram, Justin Timberlake apologized to his wife, Jessica Biel.

Also on Instagram, Antonio Brown apologized to New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft, and later to fans in general.

Instagram itself apologized to pole dancers—yes, pole dancers—for hiding some of their posts.

Twitter apologized for misusing people's personal information.

And Facebook has apologized so many times it should have its own page labeled, "Yep, sorry again."

Joe Biden apologized for comments about segregationists.

Elizabeth Warren apologized to Native Americans.

An Alabama governor apologized for once wearing blackface.

An Alabama mayor apologized for a Facebook post suggesting LGBTQ people should be killed.

An Alabama superintendent apologized for his high school baseball players yelling slurs at a gay couple.

And an Alabama police department apologized for a post about mass shootings.

Lots of apologies coming out of Alabama.

Schools also do a great amount of apologizing. A North Carolina school system apologized after a teacher gave an assignment on slavery that asked the question, "How many slaves would be needed to equal at least four white people?"

A Kentucky school superintendent apologized for an employee who said a rival school's kids "can't even count to 100."

A Babson College staffer apologized for a Facebook post suggesting Iran list 52 U.S. cultural sites it could bomb.

The University of Kansas apologized for having Snoop Dogg play an athletic rally.

And the Zac Brown Band apologized for using a person with dwarfism in an onstage skit.

That one just stood out.

HERE'S WHY WE'RE DOING IT

What is behind all this apologizing? You would think, by the sheer numbers, that the world had developed a highly sensitive conscience.

I fear it's something else. Apologizing has become the new defense. A preemptive block against a tidal wave of criticism, or a cure-all wall if you are too late to stop it.

Apologies—public ones—have become the pound of flesh that activists demand, and the springboard used by celebrities and politicians—who need others to like them—to get back into their followers' good graces.

Social media has given us a million new ways to embarrass ourselves, and the raft of apologies over posts, tweets, and photos is proof. But it's also a quick way to write a few remorseful words (or have someone else write them for you) without anyone being able to see or hear the contrition you really have.

And then there's the actual wording of these apologies, which often follow a template of "I'm sorry if anyone was offended" which is not far from "it's too bad you're so easily offended" which is not far from "it's your own stupid fault you're so easily offended."

Apologies should be sincere or they aren't really apologies. Ben Franklin once said "never ruin an apology with an excuse." Today, the apology often IS the excuse. I apologized, therefore my actions clearly aren't me anymore.

Maybe we're saying sorry too much. Maybe we're saying it for the wrong things. But with 2020 being an election year, you can bet we'll be saying it a lot more. There will be more apologies, and more calls for apologies, and more apologies for not apologizing sooner.

And I realize, in looking it over, that this column has gone on much longer than intended.

And I apologize.

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Carl Hiaasen CONTINUED...

them as service animals, but they're allowed in airports and planes if they're well-trained, housebroken and not too large.

I've never been on a flight with an equine, or crossed paths with one in any airport—including Miami International, where you see just about everything (especially at the urinals).

But compared to a python or a peacock or a dog that snaps at children, a horse seems way more plausible as a legit service companion.

In case you were wondering, the current rules do allow airlines to turn away

passengers accompanied by reptiles, rodents, ferrets, spiders and (I swear) sugar gliders, a small species of flying opossum.

No offense, but if you can't board an airplane without the therapeutic encouragement of your opossum, you need to get your crazy ass into a rental car.

Carl Hiaasen is a columnist for the Miami Herald. Readers may write to him at The Miami Herald, 3511 NW 91st Ave., Miami, FL 33172.

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FRESH SEAFOOD?



One of the first questions people ask when they visit our area is
“How can we be sure we’re getting fresh seafood?”

That’s an excellent question. In the state of Florida, even though it is surrounded by water, more than 90% of the seafood sold this year will be imported from other countries.

Throughout the United States, the huge majority of seafood is imported. Most of it is mislabeled. Frozen seafood is sold as “fresh” and imported seafood is sold as “local”. According to Oceana, 93% of fish sold as red snapper is actually some other species. 57% of tuna sold at sushi bars throughout the country is not tuna. Most of the tilapia served in this country comes from Viet Nam and Thailand and much

of it is farmed in waters with sewage run-off and the source of feed is pig feces.

Harbor Docks has been selling fish through its wholesale market since 1981. We sell to markets across the United States and Canada. We also sell to select restaurants along the Gulf Coast. Harbor Docks contracts with over 100 commercial boats to ensure that we have an adequate supply of fresh fish.



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Tilapia/pig feces: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-10-11/asian-seafood-raised-on-pig-feces-approved-for-u-s-consumers.html>

The Circle We Call Life

By Charles Morgan III

I like sad songs. It has been said that the music that is most influential in people's lives is the music you listened to between the age of 16 to 25 years.

I spent the first half of an illustrious college career in Sewanee, Tennessee. If you like gloomy weather, which I do, Sewanee is perfect. Winters on the Cumberland Plateau, if I remember correctly, were either socked-in dense fog or misty, frozen rain. It was grey.

I started my freshman year at 17 years old with hair past my shoulders. I hadn't shaved since the last day of high school. I looked like a skinny hipster! I was surrounded by classmates who were prep school kids wearing khakis and blue blazers and weejuns.

I remember taking a forestry class in dendrology. We had to memorize 100 different types of trees by their family, genus, species, variety and cultivar. All fall, we collected leaves to identify the trees, including about 20 varieties of oaks. By the time of the final exam, in December, there were no leaves left on the trees. That wasn't sad—that was mind numbingly cruel..

I was a runner, and my first winter there I would come back from a long run down fire trails in the 10,000-acre forest with my beard coated in ice.

I was comfortable in my self-assigned role as an outcast.

I listened to albums by Joni Mitchell (Blue) and John Prine until they were worn out. There were sad songs on those records. And I recognized them.

I like sad films. There was an old theater in Sewanee that featured foreign

films on Tuesday nights. Foreign films tend to be sad. I've watched them ever since and I've just about memorized Cinema Paradiso, an exquisitely sorrowful Italian movie directed by Giuseppe Tornatore.

I like sad books, and I've read lots of them. Recently, A Man Called Ove by Fredrik Backman and All The Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr were plenty sad enough for me.

Literature, film and music that deal with grief are not necessarily depressing. There's a big difference between sadness and depression. In my defense, recognizing that there are things to be sad about in this world doesn't have much to do with being depressed. It's more about being aware. And maybe a little empathetic.

I'm not a Buddhist, primarily because I don't have the discipline. But one of the tenets of Buddhism is that we must embrace sorrow, pain and misery because it's part of life. Happiness doesn't exist in a vacuum—sadness is part of the circle of life also.

I have always pulled for underdogs. Scientists of human behavior have identified the traits of people like me. But who doesn't like a great story of someone who triumphs over huge obstacles? Of course, there can be sadness in pulling for underdogs.

My father had an affinity for underdogs, too. I remember sitting in the old Fulton County Stadium on a cold Sunday afternoon at the end of an Atlanta Falcons game. The stadium was nearly empty, the Falcons were getting beat 45-0, and with the time running off the clock I asked my father what we were still doing there. He

just said, "Don't ever give up until it's over."

The Falcons never had much of a chance back then. The people that my father represented, as their attorney, never had much of a chance either. But he never gave up.

Don't be alarmed about my relationship with sadness. I'm a relatively cheerful person. I'm about as happy as the next guy, I guess. Maybe my appreciation of the theme of sadness in literature, film and music serves as a juxtaposition to my own experiences in life.

John Prine nailed it almost 50 years ago:


*That's the way
that the world goes 'round
You're up one day
and the next you're down*

*It's half an inch of water
and you think you're gonna drown
That's the way
that the world goes 'round*


The knowledge that there are things in life that call for grief and heartache is not burdensome. It's just all part of this big roundish, circle we call life.



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Energy Flows, Donations Increase as Destin High School Moves Closer to Reality

By Thomas J. Monigan

Nearly 500 locals showed up recently to celebrate the campaign that would open the doors of the first Destin High School in August.

"I was absolutely thrilled, the turnout was fantastic," said **Prebble Ramswell**, president of the proposed school's governing board. "I think everybody came away from it with a better grasp of what Destin High School wants to be and more about community involvement."

Destin United Methodist Church, located on 8.4 acres with a Beach Drive address, is slated to be the DHS campus. Music and cheers rocked the gymnasium there throughout the recent "pep rally" event.

Proposed as a tuition-free charter school, Destin High would open with 200 students in the ninth grade and 150 in the 10th grade. Deadline to apply is **Feb. 15**.

If there are more applications than that, a random lottery would choose who would be accepted.

Unveiled at the climax of the event was a "teaser" logo designed by eighth-grader Briar Ramswell, who was among the cheerleaders from Destin Middle School at the event. The official logo has yet to be finalized.

So were school colors and a mascot.

Colors are Cerulean blue, silver and black, as submitted by Emily Stephens. She teaches at Destin Elementary.

Shark is the mascot, which was a contest tie between Gloria Tucker and Brooke O'Keefe.

Tucker's great, great grandfather was William T. Marler, one of Destin's founders. O'Keefe grew up in Destin schools and is a senior at Fort Walton Beach High School.

Comments from the big event:

Grace Fountain, a ninth-grader at South Walton High School: "I think it's very cool that my mom (Denise) is involved with this (on the governing board). It will be cool to be the first graduating class, because you always have that."

Ella Stone, The Shark, daughter of board treasurer Sarah Stone: "It's cool (being in the costume) but it's definitely nerve-racking just a little, because everyone's going to be seeing it for the first time and no one knows what it is yet. It's pretty exciting though."

Drew Palmer. He and wife Jodi have daughters Reagan, a freshman at FWBHS, and Riley, a seventh-grader at Destin Middle: "It's not just about my kids...not just about the next four to six years. Just think about the next 10 to 20 years and kids who have graduated from Destin High School. What an amazing opportunity it is to be here today and to be a part of the inception of such an important thing for our community. You can give money, you can give your time, you can give your talents. There's so many ways to be involved."

State Rep. Mel Ponder, former Mayor of Destin: "This is a new day in the city of Destin. This is where our own get to stay here in this hometown. This is our school, this is your school. This is a culture of honor and community and a hometown team. Our moment in history will be recorded by what we do with what's been given to us. Our moment in history starts from tonight going forward. We can create it, we can breathe life into it and we can have fun doing it."

Christy Noe, CEO of The Collaborative Educational Network, is the major consultant on this project. Her comments dealt with "Generation Z," those born after 1997, and what curriculum would be offered at DHS: "Your kids know more about technology than we ever did. They're not thinking like we did. They don't do the same things that we do. So guess what? Teaching kids today is not the

same thing that we all are thinking high school is. So when I talked to this group about curriculum, it's a little bit different. Yes, it's a high school, but our vision is a little bit different.

"We want all students to be college and career ready. We want our students to know what it is they like and to understand something about themselves. We want something that is individualized about students. We want your kids to be engaged and how they are going to be engaged is because we're going to make sure that what we're doing is relevant and connected to who they are."

Thomas J. Monigan's career as a reporter and editor has seen him work at newspapers in New Jersey, New York City, Georgia, northern California and North Carolina. He has written newspaper and magazine stories that have taken him from Pensacola to Panama City, as well as coastal Alabama.

Want to Donate?

Contact Sarah Stone at 850-598-6888 or sarah@saysarah.com.

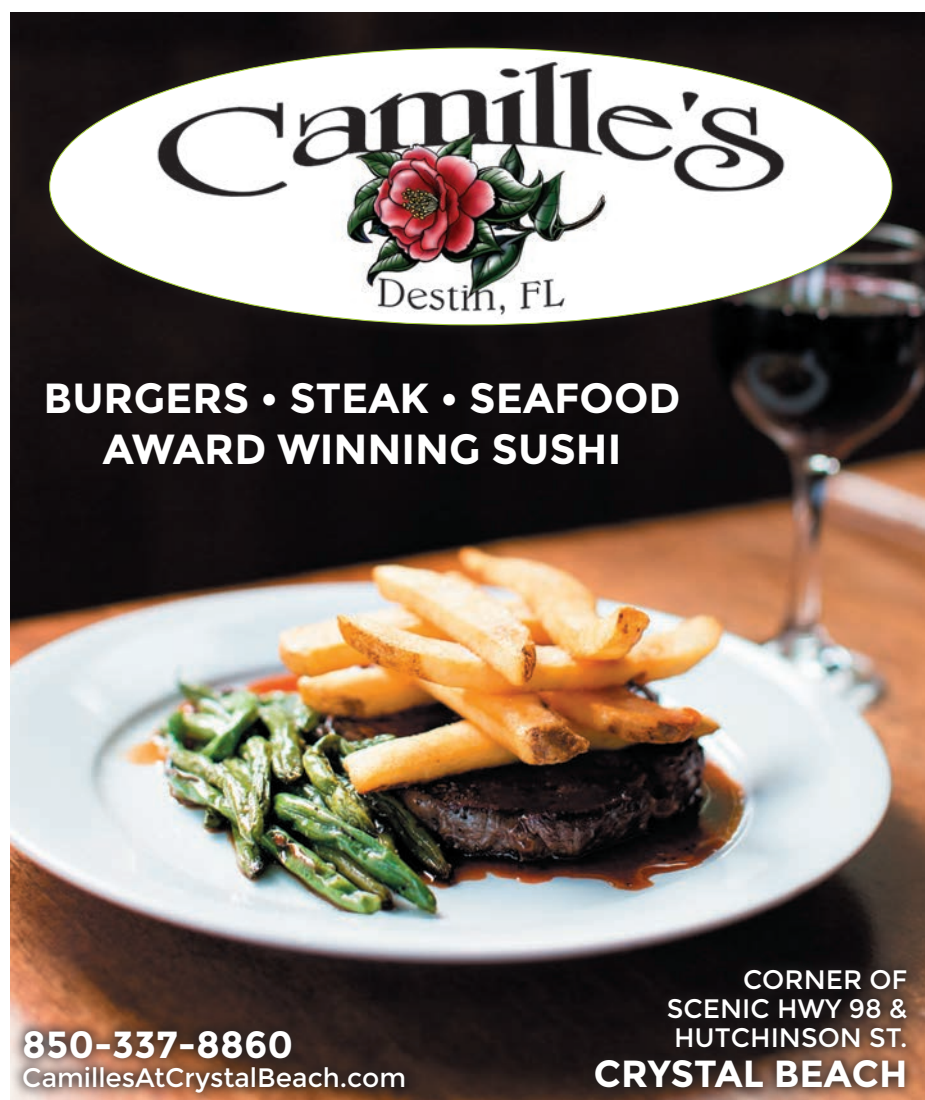
From Kay Phelan: At the Town Hall Pep Rally, Destin residents Allen and Dee Dee Phillips donated \$200,000, and others in attendance donated another \$22,000.

From Thomas Monigan: Weeks before the event, **Jackson White**, owner and general manager of Mills Heating & Air in Fort Walton Beach, donated \$50,000.

"I believe it's going to be a huge asset for the community," said White, the son of an auto mechanic who "found welding in high school."

The Trades Classroom at DHS will be named in honor of Mills Heating & Air.

Donations toward the projected \$2 million renovation of the campus were calculated at \$423,707.63 following the recent event.



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The Beachcomber Fishing Report



By Phillip Houston, The Dawn Patrol

The end of January into February is usually our coldest time of the year. However, the days can be very nice and the fishing can catch fire within a blink of an eye.

In the bay—the trout, redfish, black drum, flounder, white trout and some of the best sheepshead fishing of the year. Along the coast and off the piers—winter Bonita can be found cruising just off the shoreline and sandbars early mornings.

Surf, pier and jetty fishing will produce some pompano, whiting, redfish and sheepshead. Bottom fisherman will enjoy catching amberjack, scamp, red grouper, triggerfish and Mingo snapper.



Remember—fish responsibly and always check the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission site (myfwc.com) for the most updated rules and regulations on your targeted species.

BEACH WARNING FLAGS

BANDERAS DE ADVERTENCIA EN LA PLAYA

High Hazard
High Surf and/or Strong Currents
Peligro Alto, Resaca Alta y/o Corrientes Fuertes

Low Hazard
Calm Conditions, Exercise Caution
Peligro Bajo, Condiciones Calmas, Tenga Cuidado

Medium Hazard
Moderate Surf and/or Currents
Peligro Medio, Resaca Moderada y/o Corrientes Fuertes

Dangerous Marine Life
Vida Marina Peligrosa

Absence of Flags Does Not Assure Safe Waters
La Ausencia de Banderas No Asegura Aguas Seguras

Water Closed to Public
Agua Cerrada al Público

DESTIN EAST PASS TIDE & SUNSET CHART					
FEB 06	Sunrise	6:32am	TIDES	FEB 20	Sunrise 6:20am
	Sunset	5:27pm	Low 6:17am	FEB 20	Sunset 5:39pm
	Moon	84%	High 7:58pm		Low 6:33am
FEB 07	Sunrise	6:31am	TIDES		Moon 13%
	Sunset	5:28pm	Low 7:08am	FEB 21	High 8:13pm
	Moon	91%	High 8:55pm		TIDES
FEB 08	Sunrise	6:30am	TIDES		Sunrise 6:19am
	Sunset	5:29pm	Low 7:54am	FEB 22	Sunset 5:39pm
	Moon	96%	High 9:50pm		Low 7:12am
FEB 09	Sunrise	6:30am	TIDES		Moon 7%
	Sunset	5:30pm	Low 8:35am	FEB 23	High 9:04pm
	Moon	99%	High 10:44pm		TIDES
FEB 10	Sunrise	6:29am	TIDES		Sunrise 6:18am
	Sunset	5:31pm	Low 9:09am	FEB 24	Sunset 5:40pm
	Moon	99%	High 11:40pm		Low 7:38am
FEB 11	Sunrise	6:28am	TIDES		Moon 3%
	Sunset	5:31pm	Low 9:31am	FEB 25	High 9:45pm
	Moon	96%			TIDES
FEB 12	Sunrise	6:27am	TIDES		Sunrise 6:15am
	Sunset	5:32pm	Low 9:29am/6:45pm	FEB 26	Sunset 5:42pm
	Moon	91%	High 12:44am/3:51pm		Low 7:47am
FEB 13	Sunrise	6:26am	TIDES		Moon 1%
	Sunset	5:33pm	Low 8:32am/10:26pm	FEB 27	High 11:43pm
	Moon	83%	High 2:14am/2:30pm		TIDES
FEB 14	Sunrise	6:26am	TIDES		Sunrise 6:14am
	Sunset	5:34pm	High 2:31pm	FEB 28	Sunset 5:43pm
	Moon	73%			Low 7:26am/7:13pm
FEB 15	Sunrise	6:25am	TIDES		Moon 4%
	Sunset	5:35pm	Low 12:46am	FEB 29	High 2:07pm
	Moon	63%	High 3:04pm		TIDES
FEB 16	Sunrise	6:24am	TIDES		Sunrise 6:13am
	Sunset	5:35pm	Low 2:21am	MAR 01	Sunset 5:44pm
	Moon	51%	High 3:53pm		Low 6:45am/9:09pm
FEB 17	Sunrise	6:23am	TIDES		Moon 8%
	Sunset	5:36pm	Low 3:36am	MAR 02	High 12:43am/1:36pm
	Moon	40%	High 4:55pm		TIDES
FEB 18	Sunrise	6:22am	TIDES		Sunrise 6:12am
	Sunset	5:37pm	Low 4:43am	MAR 03	Sunset 5:44pm
	Moon	30%	High 6:04pm		Low 5:05am/10:45pm
FEB 19	Sunrise	6:21am	TIDES		Moon 14%
	Sunset	5:38pm	Low 5:42am	MAR 04	High 2:41am/1:32pm
	Moon	21%	High 7:13pm		TIDES
					Sunrise 6:11am
					Sunset 5:45pm
					High 1:47pm
					Moon 21%
					TIDES
					Sunrise 6:10am
					Sunset 5:46pm
					Low 12:14am
					Moon 30%
					High 2:19pm
					TIDES
					Sunrise 6:08am
					Sunset 5:47pm
					Low 1:40am
					Moon 39%
					High 3:09pm
					TIDES
					Sunrise 6:07am
					Sunset 5:47pm
					Low 2:56am
					Moon 49%
					High 4:14pm
					TIDES
					Sunrise 6:06am
					Sunset 5:48pm
					Low 4:02am
					Moon 59%
					High 5:28pm

A Weekend of Tequila and Tacos Comes to Seascap Towne Centre in March

Seascap Towne Centre kicks off the spring event season with three days of culinary events at the **7th Annual Tequila & Taco Fest March 6-8**. This premier event has grown significantly since being founded in 2012 by **Carlos Shaffran**, who says, “Guests from all over the southeast come to celebrate this unique event on the Emerald Coast.”

Make plans for a festive Friday, with an evening of Bocadillo and Margarita welcome party at Mezcal Bar & Grill. Signature Margaritas made with Corralejo Tequila, creative small plates and live music kick off the weekend **March 6**, from 6 6 to 9 PM.

“We are excited to be the new host venue for this popular event, and we look forward to continue to be part of the growth year after year,” says **Ron Mote** of Seascap Towne Centre. “We strive to create new, one-of-a-kind experiences for our guests to enjoy.”

On Saturday, **March 7**, from 1 to 5 PM, sip and savor during a flavorful afternoon featuring a large selection

of award-winning Tequilas and Margaritas, and a variety of chicken, beef, pork, fish and authentic Latin tacos. Over 20 local restaurants will compete for the top prize of \$2,500 for the Best Taco on the Emerald Coast.

With over 40 different Tequilas and Margaritas for sampling, guests will have the opportunity to try smoky and sweet agave flavors as well as different varieties of Tequila including Resposados, Blancos and Anejos. High-end tequilas, including Don Julio and Patron, will be available in the VIP area.

This year’s event includes live music from **DJ Vasco and Salsa Band** and **Merengue 4**, face painting for the little amigos, and a Chihuahua beauty contest. Plus—show off your football arm by tossing the longest tortilla!

A post-festival concert with country superstars **Eli Young Band** happens at the Village Door Music Hall. Doors open at 7 PM, and tickets start at \$30.



The wildly popular Eli Young Band performs at the Village Door Music Hall Saturday, March 7.

The weekend concludes Sunday, **March 8**, with a Bye-Bye Brunch at Acme Oyster House from 11 AM to 2 PM.

Plan a Stay & Sip weekend at the Seascap Golf Beach & Tennis Resort and enjoy being steps away from the festivities. This year’s festival features an exclusive VIP Weekend Package including:

- Weekend accommodations at the Seascap Golf Beach & Tennis Resort.
- VIP tickets to the Signature Welcome Pre-Party Friday and a VIP ticket to the Tequila & Taco Fest Saturday.
- Brunch at Mezcal Bar and Grill Sunday, **March 8**.

Tickets for all Tequila & Taco Fest events are available for purchase at www.efestevents.com.



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Who’s in for Valentine’s Dinner?

By Jane Morgan

Happy February! This month, I’m back with two simple recipes that are great for a Valentine’s Day dinner in, and any other day you might need a little pick-me-up or want to impress someone with a dinner that is easy to make and truly delicious.

Cooking should feel stress-free, and this dinner epitomizes that. It’s elegant, comforting, inexpensive, and the perfect meal to share with your loved ones. Oh, and I don’t think anyone would complain if you paired it with some garlic bread. There’s nothing more romantic to me than being comfortable enough with someone to have garlicky breath together.

HERBY SALAD WITH A LEMON DIJON VINAIGRETTE



I make this salad for myself, for friends, or for clients at least twice a week. It goes with everything, takes less than five minutes to put together, and has enough acidity and brightness to balance any rich or heavy food you’re pairing it with. You can use any kind of lettuce, herbs or vegetables you have on hand or prefer, but this is how I think it tastes best. Try your best to get high-quality lettuce for this—it really does make a difference with a salad this simple.

Ingredients:

- 8 cups of the lettuce of your choice (I love a mix of romaine and arugula, or little gems and iceberg, but really anything would be perfect here.)
- 1/2 medium red onion or 1 shallot, thinly sliced
- 4 cups mixed chopped herbs (my favorite for this is a mix of dill, parsley, and chives)
- 1 lemon
- 1/4 cup good olive oil
- 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard
- 2 radishes, thinly sliced (optional)
- Flaky salt, for finishing (optional)

Preparation:

1. Prep your ingredients. Wash and dry the lettuce and herbs. Tear the lettuce into bite-size pieces or roughly chop it. Roughly chop the herbs. Thinly slice the radishes and red onion.
2. In a big mixing or serving bowl, toss the lettuce, herbs, onion and radishes until mixed.
3. In a small bowl, combine the juice of one lemon, the olive oil and the Dijon, and whisk to combine. Season with salt and pepper and adjust to taste.
4. Pour the dressing over the salad and mix until evenly distributed. Top with flaky sea salt and more cracked pepper, and enjoy!

SPICY RIGATONI ALLA VODKA



This pasta is the ultimate low effort, high reward recipe. I’ve been making different vodka sauce recipes for years, but this one has a little extra kick that makes it really special and cuts through the creaminess. It has the velvetiest texture, and is easy enough that anyone can make it, but tastes elevated enough to impress anyone. It’s a great pasta to have in your arsenal. This recipe makes four servings. It’s excellent for leftovers the next day or eaten over the course of your favorite Nancy Meyers movie.

Ingredients:

- 3 tablespoons olive oil
- 1 yellow onion, finely chopped
- 6 garlic cloves, well smashed
- 1 tube of tomato paste
- 3/4 tablespoon red pepper flakes (If you want less spice, use 1/2 tablespoon, or use closer to 1 tablespoon if you want it extra spicy.)
- 2 tablespoons vodka (to deglaze the pan)
- 1 pound rigatoni, or your other favorite pasta shape
- 1 cup heavy cream
- 1/3 cup grated parmesan, plus more for serving
- Basil for serving

Preparation:

1. Prep your ingredients. Chop the onion, grate or microplane the parmesan, and smash the garlic.
2. Set a pot of salted water on the stove to boil.
3. Heat the olive oil in a large skillet or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add garlic and onions, season with salt, and sauté, stirring occasionally, until they soften and take on a bit of color.
4. Meanwhile, add the pasta to the boiling water, and set a timer for al dente, or the lower end of the time range on the box. Reserve a cup of pasta water, and drain.
5. When the onions and garlic are starting to brown, add the red pepper flakes and tomato paste. Sauté, stirring often, until the paste has darkened and is browning on the bottom of the pan.
6. Add the vodka and stir, scraping up any browned bits on the bottom of the pan. Keep stirring until the vodka has reduced and evaporated.
7. Turn the heat to low, and slowly add the heavy cream, stirring constantly to incorporate. Season with salt.
8. Add the cooked pasta, 1/2–3/4 cup of the pasta water, and parmesan. Stir until it is well-coated and the sauce is super glossy and velvety, adding more pasta water if needed.
9. Taste for seasoning, and top with more red pepper flakes, parmesan, and basil. Enjoy!

Jane Morgan is a personal chef, caterer, recipe developer and writer from Destin currently living in Brooklyn. You can see more of her recipes on Instagram @janecooksforyou. And sign up for her newsletter at janedeanmorgan.com/newsletter.

Marlin Grill:

An “Escape from Your Normal Life” at Baytowne Wharf

By Lauren Sage Reinlie

Tom Rice perches on a barstool at the end of a bar made of dark wood and smooth marble. This is where the 61-year-old can be found most days.

In fact, he has been here almost every day for the past 18 years.

“That’s the restaurant business,” the owner of Marlin Grill reflects. “If you’re not crazy about having to come do it every day, it’s probably not the business for you. This is not a mail-in business. If you’re going to be successful, you’ve got to put the time in.”

And put the time in, Rice has.

Rice and his partner Wayne Lewis opened the fine dining restaurant in July 2002, hitching some of their fate to the fledgling Village of Baytowne Wharf where the restaurant is located. At the time, it seemed like a good bet.

“The seasonality of where we live is one of the most difficult things,” Rice says. “You can’t build them big enough to get you through the summer and then have them be small enough to be able to pay for them through the winter.”

Baytowne aimed to help with that by drawing conventions and groups during the offseason. That has helped shore up business during some of those off weeks outside spring and summer, Rice says. The restaurant has been a great fit for the development.

Rice says the main reason he believes locals and visitors alike keep flocking



Marlin Grill opened in 2002 in the Village of Baytowne Wharf.

in is that the restaurant focuses on locally sourced, quality food and excellent service in a pleasant atmosphere.

Marlin Grill serves steak and seafood accompanied by an award-winning wine list, extensive bourbon menu, specialty martinis and more.

Their most popular dish is their always-locally sourced pan-sautéed grouper. The restaurant also serves a 28-day dry-aged Angus steak cooked over a wood-fired grill.

Dry aging is when the butcher puts up the loins and lets them age in a cooler before cutting them, enhancing the flavor and tenderness of the meat. Rice cooks his steaks over a fire with Hickory wood that has been barn-cured for two years. It produces a nice,

dry burn, he says, giving the steak a hint of wood flavor, which can’t be achieved on a gas-powered grill.

The 20-person bar is always helmed by friendly, experienced bartenders, and the entire place is decorated to give off a 1930s outdoor, sportsman vibe. Photographs of Ernest Hemingway’s boating and fishing adventures adorn the walls. And the spoked design of the ceiling in the main dining room was fashioned after the ceiling on Hemingway’s 38-foot fishing boat, Pilar.

“When you come in, we want you to be able to feel like you have been able to escape your normal life for a couple hours,” Rice says. “It’s a place you can just relax, enjoy yourself, have a good time and enjoy some nice dinner and a good drink to go with it.”

Marlin Grill is not Rice and his partner’s only Northwest Florida restaurant venture. They’ve also had a hand in some of the central institutions in the area.

Rice’s father was in the NASA program in the 60s and 70s, so he grew up all over the country.

“I did the 12 schools in 12 years program,” he says. His family spent some extended time in Huntsville, Alabama, and New Orleans, however, and that’s when Rice fell in love with the South.

“I liked the people, I liked the culture, I liked the pace, the whole bit,” he says.

After completing college in Miami, he

came to Destin to settle down in the early 80s. All he had to do was figure out how to make a living.

He found a home in the restaurant industry. In 1993, Rice and Lewis opened Lucky Snapper, the superiorly scenic restaurant that used to be located at HarborWalk Village. (The building now houses Jimmy Buffet’s Margaritaville.) They ran it for almost 20 years.

“I remember when we opened, we looked at the land lease. It was a 20-year deal, and it had 19 years left on it,” Rice says. “I thought, ‘That’s a lifetime.’ And then the next thing you know, man, those 19 years are come and gone, and you’re like, ‘What in the world?’”

In 2002, Rice and Lewis opened their first Jim ‘N Nicks BBQ restaurant in the area. The concept flourished under their care, and they sold the operation side of the business a few years ago.

Now Rice is focused primarily on Marlin Grill.

Rice’s wife, Lara, is a teacher at Destin Elementary. Their son, Thomas, was two when Rice opened Marlin Grill. He grew up running past that dark-wood and marble bar, down the hallways, through the kitchen. Thomas now works part-time at the restaurant while completing his college degree.

Rice’s retirement plan is not to retire. He feels meant to walk the restaurant floor.

“I want to keep going,” he says. “I enjoy hobbying a little, but I don’t hobby all that well. I’d rather be working.”

Marlin Grill will host Valentine’s dinner **Feb. 14-16**. Diners can enjoy a three-course meal with a wine flight. Entrees include a combination fish platter with three types of local seafood and twin five-ounce bacon-wrapped filets. Choose your own three half-bottles of wine from an exclusive selection. The cost is \$200 per couple. Reservations required. Call 850-351-1990.

Lauren Sage Reinlie is a freelance journalist living in Freeport. She has written and edited for newspapers and magazines for over 10 years. Her writing has received several statewide honors, including for her work covering the U.S. military and military life in northwest Florida. She can be reached at lauren.sage.edwards@gmail.com.



Always-locally sourced pan-sautéed grouper is the most popular dish on the menu at Marlin Grill. Photos courtesy of Marlin Grill.

Restaurant Guide

If your favorite restaurant isn't listed here, let us know by dropping an email to us at chris@beachcomberdestin.com!

AMERICAN

AL'S BEACH CLUB & BURGER BAR Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-226-4100. ALSBEACHCLUB.COM

BUD & ALLEY'S WATERFRONT RESTAURANT A pioneer of the fish- and farm-to-table movement, with an award-winning menu featuring Gulf Coast classics paired with Southern-style cuisine. The daily Sunset Celebration ritual on the Rooftop Deck overlooking the Gulf has been a tradition for more than 30 years. Open daily for breakfast (8-11 AM), lunch (11 AM-2:30 PM) and dinner (from 5 PM). Hours may vary. 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-5900. BudAndAlleys.com.

CAFÉ THIRTY-A Cafe Thirty-A has been here a while. Finding out why can be a delicious experience. A nightly-changing menu offers steaks, chicken, pork, lamb, and local seafood elegantly prepared with imaginative sauces and sides, courteously served in a beautiful beach-house atmosphere. Lobster bisque, stone crab claws, seasonal fish and shellfish, and wood oven-baked pizzas. Full bar. \$8-36. 3899 E. Scenic Highway 30-A, Seagrove Beach, 850-231-2166.

THE FRANK & BEEF CONNECTION is the only exclusive Vienna Beef vendor on the Emerald Coast serving authentic Chicago style hotdogs, Polish and Italian beefs. All ingredients (except onions, tomatoes and potatoes) are shipped from the Vienna Beef Company in Chicago. Open Monday through Saturday, 11 AM-7 PM. Located at 1006 Beal Parkway, Fort Walton

Beach, 850-543-6785 or 850-240-4417. Follow us on Facebook!

JIMMY BUFFETT'S MARGARITAVILLE From a volcano flowing with Margaritas to suspended airplanes, Margaritaville is more than a restaurant; it's a state of mind. Open daily, 11 AM-10 PM Five O'Clock Somewhere celebration Mon.-Thu., 4-7 PM 76 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-460-7700. www.margaritavilledestin.com.

LUCY BUFFETT'S LULU'S DESTIN is located next to the Mid Bay Bridge and Legendary Marine on the Choctawhatchee Bay in beautiful Destin, Florida. A little off the beaten path, but we like a little more room to breathe. Specializing in the BEST Burgers in Paradise, Southern Favorites and Lucy's own GUMBO LOVE! Family friendly! Come by boat, anchor and wade in or call for our boat shuttle. Open daily at 11 AM. Live music nightly. Separate allergy menu. Beach for the kids to play, Fountain of Youth, LuLu's Gift Shop. 850-710-LULU (5858). www.lulubuffett.com/destin.

RESTAURANT PARADIS Nestled in the beautiful coastal town of Rosemary Beach, you'll find this hidden gem that loyal customers like to call home. Evoking a warm neighborhood feel, the dining area features an understated wine country elegance. Open for dinner beginning at 5 PM, Paradis is committed to serving fresh seasonal ingredients, which celebrate local produce and an abundance of fresh Gulf seafood, along with prime steaks and fine wines. Paradis welcomes wedding receptions, rehearsal dinners, and all celebrations, both intimate and

large. Come join us! Located at 82 S Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach. Call 850-534-0400 or visit www.restaurantparadis.com.

SLICK MICK'S is a family-friendly sports bar and a locals' favorite. Home of the Slick Mick's Philly Cheesesteak, award-winning pizza and much more. Live music every Friday and Saturday, and a Sunday brunch that will knock your church socks off! Full football coverage—catch SEC, BIG 10 and NFL games, plus UFC fight nights. Kids eat FREE every Tuesday. Full bar with a variety of beers on tap. Daily happy hour, 3-7 PM. Can't make it in? That's okay, we have delivery. Veteran owned and operated, we are proud to serve our community and offer military discounts. 19 Eglin Parkway NE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-864-5577.

VUE ON 30A showcases one of the best views for dining in all of South Walton. Open to the public and serving lunch, dinner, happy hour and Sunday brunch. Named "Best Restaurant of 2014" by Beachcomber, Vue on 30a offers the ultimate dining experience. Open for Sunday brunch, 10 AM-2 PM; Tue.-Thu.—lounge 3-9 PM, dinner 5-9 PM; Fri.-Sat.—lounge 3-10 PM, dinner 5-10 PM; closed Mondays. Happy hour in the lounge only 3-6 PM. Two for one entrée specials Wed.-Sat., 5-6 PM. 4801 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2305. www.Vueon30a.com.

ASIAN

LIN'S ASIAN CUISINE Enjoy carefully prepared and artfully served Chinese and Southeast Asian dishes in a pleasant and welcoming atmosphere.

Chicken, beef, pork, duck, fish and shellfish are cooked to suit most tastes, and Lin's offers your favorites—General Tso's chicken, Mongolian beef, pad thai, lo mein and kung pao, Among many others. Beer and wine. \$2-15. 130 Scenic Gulf Dr. #5B, Miramar Beach, 850-424-5888.

BAKERIES

CAKEMASTER'S BAKERY II Quality baked goods since 1971, made from scratch on the premises by a fourth generation baker. Decorated cakes for all occasions. New Sweet Expressions cake collection. Breakfast pastries—Danish (cheese, pecan, fruit), assorted coffee cakes, cinnamon rolls, crumb cake, strudel, bienstich, pecan crispies. Delicious delights—brownies, ragulah, cream fingers, biscotti, cookies (wedding, sugar, chocolate chip, raisin, fruit bars, holiday) and more. Refrigerated desserts—éclairs, Boston cream pie, cheesecake, black forest cake, Italian rum cake, Napoleons, French cream puffs and more. Come on by and see us. 105 Beach Drive Suite A-3, Fort Walton Beach (behind Pizza Hut on Racetrack Road), 850-862-4911. Closed Mondays.

BARBEQUE

BACK BEACH BARBECUE offers a delicious yet refined menu highlighted by 12-hour slow cooked meats, simple homemade sides, gluten-free options and four sauces made special in house. At the center of attention are the restaurant's two wood fired pits, "Smokey" and "The Bandit," easily viewed and smelled from



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Restaurant Guide

the covered patio, outdoor patio or via two garage doors which give the restaurant a true open-air feel. Back Beach Barbecue also offers catering for private and corporate events, delivery and a mobile food truck. The restaurant is open seven days a week for breakfast, lunch, and dinner, beginning at 6:30 AM. Located at 19714 Panama City Beach Parkway, Panama City Beach. Call 850-249-0822 or visit www.backbeachbarbecue.com.

LILLIE'S Q Award-winning on the national level barbecue restaurant located at 9848 Hwy. 98 W., Miramar Beach, approximately seven miles east of the Mid Bay Bridge. We offer barbecue that represents all areas of the U.S., such as pulled pork, baby back ribs, smoked chicken breast and beef tri-tip (sliced sirloin). All meat products are slow smoked using natural wood and lump charcoal. Seven sauce choices with delicious side orders and the best banana pudding in the Panhandle. We offer a wrap around porch. No inside seating. Hours: Tue.-Sat., 11 AM-6 PM Call ahead orders welcomed! 850-654-3911. www.restaurantji.com/fl/miramar-beach/lillies-q-

BREAKFAST

CAMILLE'S CAFE Start your day with coffee and breakfast. We feature fluffy eggs, cinnamon rolls, apple pie muffins, fresh juice and smoothies. For lunch, enjoy our fresh caught tuna salad on an Asiago cheese bagel, Sriracha turkey sandwich or Mediterranean chicken salad sandwich. Plus all day Bloody Marys, mimosas, beer, and daiquiris made with fresh-squeezed juice. Join our party! 2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin, 850-337-8860.

GRITS AND GRIND In 2011, a love affair between Memphis and the NBA Grizzlies began. With a Grit and Grind style of basketball, this southern team exemplifies hard work. Our owners bring the same commitment to hard work and fresh food at Grits & Grind, a breakfast establishment located in Seacrest Beach. We serve up a great southern breakfast and more, with friendly service in a fun atmosphere. Open daily, 7-11 AM. 10343 E Co. Hwy. 30A, Seacrest Beach, 850-231-4021. gritsandgrind-breakfast.com.

THE LOCAL MARKET Open 7 AM-3 PM daily. Fresh pressed juices, coffee, breakfast, gourmet sandwiches, homemade ice cream and more. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-460-8979.

THE PANCAKERY Serving breakfast and lunch daily from 7 AM - 2 PM Featuring build your own pancakes and omelettes! Waffles, French Toast, crepes, benedicts, bananas foster and all traditional breakfast items. Also, lunch menu includes sandwiches, burgers, salads, wraps, and loaded potatoes. Now serving bloody marys, mimosas and cold beer. 960 Hwy 98 East, Suite 104, Destin. 850-269-0791.

DINNER & A SHOW

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK If you're looking for something different in town for the whole family, come enjoy Graffiti & The Funky Blues Shack. We've been around for 20-plus years doing what we do best – FOOD + MUSIC! Our dishes are tried and true and are sure to satisfy everyone in your group. Our menu showcases a little bit of everything. We offer some of the best gourmet pizzas and pastas in town. We also prepare fresh caught Gulf seafood and perfectly grilled filets. Vegetarian? No worries, we've got you covered, too. While enjoying your delectable meal, you will also experience listening or boogieing to some of the best local and out-of-town

talent. We have Jazz Jams, Blues Jams, and everything in between. We weren't voted Best Live Music Venue three years in a row for nothing! Summer music schedule is seven days a week—Sun.-Thu., 7-10 PM and Fri. and Sat., 8 PM until... We have a full bar and offer an early Happy Hour from 4 to 7 PM, as well as a late night Happy Hour Friday and Saturday (check website for time). Located at 34902 Emerald Coast Parkway in Destin. For reservations, call 850-424-6650. Full menu and music schedule at GraffitiFBS.com.

REDD'S FUELING STATION a/k/a Redd's Pub N Song, specializes in great food and music. The menu is simple but delicious, including slow cooked beef brisket, sweet and spicy babybacks and fried green tomato BLTs. **Redd the Singing Bartender** sings as she bartends, hosts and serves on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays—customers can participate by requesting songs for tips. Redd offers over 350 songs to choose from. Wednesday is Open Mic Night, the longest running open mic on 30A with musicians of all levels and ages welcome. We have the sound system, you bring your instrument and your talent. Friday nights are live music. Redd likes to promote local musicians and several popular local bands had their first gigs here, including the Luke Langford Band and Mose Wilson and the Delta Twang. Dinner reservations for four or more are highly recommended. Located at 2320 West County Highway 30A in Blue Mountain Beach. Call 850-325-0252 for information and reservations. Visit www.reddsfuel.com and find **Redd's Pub N Song** on Facebook.

FINE DINING

EDWARD'S FINE FOOD AND WINE Relax, you're at Edward's. Open everyday from 5 PM until everyone is full. Courtyard and indoor seating available. Join us at the chef's counter, and watch as the team prepares gourmet dishes to order. We love children, so for safety and as a courtesy to others, children must remain seated with their parents. We operate on a first come first serve and do not take reservations. We look forward to serving you. 66 Main Street, Rosemary Beach, 850-231-0550. Edwards30a.com.

GERMAN

FOKKERS PUB German sausages and home-made schnitzels go great with German beer! Brick oven pizza, grilled or fried wings, burgers, sandwiches and salad bar – there's something for everyone! Live music Wednesdays and Fridays. Located at 215 Miracle Strip Pkwy SE Unit #1 in Downtown Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-6666.

HEALTHY DINING

GEORGE'S AT ALYS BEACH Established in 2008, George's has offered regional coastal fare infused with global flavors to the quaint town of Alys Beach. We craft all of our dishes using locally sourced organic produce and the freshest seafood available, and present each with a generous helping of love. Our dishes fall into two categories—Behave and Misbehave. The Behave section features organic, spa-inspired dishes, while the Misbehave side touts traditional beach fare like fried seafood baskets and po-boys. The menu is rounded out with a thoughtfully curated wine list and a selection of decadent desserts. Our charming beach cottage provides the perfect backdrop for a casual dinner with friends and family. Dine indoors in our airy yet cozy dining room,

Restaurant Guide

or soak in the beautiful Florida sunshine on our front deck or screened porches. Open 11 AM-3 PM and 5-9 PM 30 Castle Harbour Dr., Panama City Beach, 850-641-0017, georgesatalysbeach.net.

ITALIAN

BUD & ALLEY'S PIZZA BAR + TRATTORIA Savor artisan cheese, fresh salad, anti-pasto dishes, homemade soups, seasonal vegetables, hearty pastas and wood-fired pizza. Experience these authentic flavors in the courtyard, fireside at the bar, or on the veranda overlooking the Gulf. Open daily for lunch and dinner, 11 AM-9 PM 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-3113. BudAndAlleysPizzaBar.com.

GRAFFITI & THE FUNKY BLUES SHACK Destin, 850-424-6650. GraffitiFBS.com

MELLOW MUSHROOM PIZZA BAKERY Widely, wildly assorted menu of stone baked pizzas, hoagies, calzones, salads, and specialty items. Pizzas traditional and exotic include pesto, jerk chicken, gourmet white, and Magical Mystery Tour. Colorful psychedelic décor and friendly service. \$4-25. 960 Hwy 98E, Sunsations Plaza, Destin, 650-6420.

TUSCANY ITALIAN BISTRO Authentic Italian cuisine includes pasta, freshest seafood, tender veal and more. A true taste of Italy--beautiful Italian decor with handpainted murals. Live Entertainment by Eclipse (Don and AManda), Special Happy Hour from 5 to 8 PM 36178 Emerald Coast Pkwy. Next to City Market in Destin. 850-650-2451.

LATIN / MEXICAN

BUD & ALLEY'S TACO BAR Shake the sand off your feet, choose a colorful table, and get ready to experience South of the Border favorites, Florida-style. Baja fish tacos, homemade guacamole, burritos, top shelf margaritas, and ice cold cerveza hit the spot for lunch or dinner. Open daily, 11 AM-9 PM 2236 East Scenic Highway 30A, Seaside, 850-231-4781. BudAndAlleys.com.

LA COCINA is a Latin-inspired restaurant featuring both specialty dishes with a Latin flair as well as classic Tex-Mex cuisine. Nestled between Rosemary Beach and Alys Beach (in Seacrest Beach), the friendly staff offers some of the best drinks along 30A, including house-made mojitos, sangria, and a selection of fresh-squeezed lime margaritas. La Cocina is always voted as one of South Walton's hot spots for Mexican cuisine. All dishes are prepared from scratch using the freshest ingredients available. Open daily for lunch, 11:30 AM-3 PM, dinner from 5 to 9 PM. Seacrest Beach, 850-231-4021.

LA PAZ offers just about anything you'd want from a Mexican-Southwestern kitchen, including tamales, tacos, fajitas, burritos, enchiladas and quesadillas, plus a thoughtfully prepared list of grilled local fish and shellfish and imaginative spins on classics. Daily dinner specials, full bar. \$15-25. 950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin, 850-837-2247. www.lapazdestin.com.

PEPITO'S MEXICAN GRILL An enormous menu, plenty of room, and a friendly staff make Pepito's a good bet for a Mexican snack or feast. Traditional and unusual fare includes carnitas, enchiladas, fajitas, vegetarian dishes, steaks and seafood specialties. \$4-19. 757 Harbor Blvd, Destin, 650-7734. Additional locations in Bluewater Bay and Fort Walton Beach. www.mypepitos.com.

ROCKIN TACOS GRILL & TEQUILA BAR Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-226-8226. ROCKINTACOS.COM

SEAFOOD

CAMILLE'S AT CRYSTAL BEACH Gulf to Table seafood, pizza, steaks, cocktails, and award-winning sushi. Located on the corner of Scenic Highway 98 and Hutchinson Street in Crystal Beach. 850-337-8860. www.camillesatcrystalbeach.com

THE CRAB TRAP SEAFOOD AND OYSTER BAR Scenic Highway 98 in Destin, 850-664-2722; Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-301-0959. CRABTRAPFLORIDA.COM

DEWEY DESTIN'S HARBORSIDE RESTAURANT The classics, done right. Shrimp, crab, tuna, grouper, scallops, oysters and some land-based items, served fried, grilled, or steamed in most conceivable combinations. Family-friendly, accommodating staff. Nightly specials, full bar. Open daily at 11 AM 202 Harbor Boulevard, Destin, 850-837-7525.

DEWEY DESTIN'S NAVARRE All your favorites, plus live music with Beachcomber Music Award winner Austin Jennings every Saturday night from 8 to 11. Open Sun.-Thu., 11 AM-8 PM, and Fri.-Sat., 11 AM-9 PM. 8673 Navarre Parkway, Navarre, 850-710-7070.

DEWEY DESTIN'S SEAFOOD RESTAURANT Get fed with the real locals on Calhoun. Dine inside or out on the water, choosing from grilled and fried local fish and shellfish. Oysters, scallops, shrimp, crab, yellowfin and daily catch served in baskets, on platters or on sandwiches with gumbo, apps and salads that all go well with the laid-back setting. Beer and wine. Open daily at 11 AM 9 Calhoun Avenue, Destin, 850-837-7575.

FLOYD'S SHRIMP HOUSE A local favorite for shrimp, crab and seafood. Signature cocktails, kids' play area. Located on the Okaloosa Island Boardwalk, 850-243-2232. FLOYDSSHRIMPHOUSE.COM

GRANDE VISTA BAR & GRILL Located in the Emerald Grande. Open daily 7 AM-9 PM for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Grande Vista Bar & Grill has delicious local seafood, signature sandwiches and mouth-watering burgers. Enjoy casual or business lunch inside or poolside overlooking the Destin Harbor. Enjoy special drink prices inside or outside at our poolside bar. The view from our pool deck is simply breathtaking. Half-priced drinks daily, 4-6 PM 10 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8100 x1550. info@emeraldgrande.com.

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own market since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area's best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. harbordocks.com.

HARRY T'S LIGHTHOUSE Located in HarborWalk Village right on the beautiful Destin Harbor, Harry T's has something for all ages! With entrees ranging from fresh local seafood to our gourmet hamburgers, there's something for everyone! Voted Best Place to Watch the Sunset four years in a row, our outside deck offers an unparalleled view of the Destin Harbor. Mega Happy Hour



LA PAZ
RESTAURANTE & CANTINA

COASTAL MEXICAN CUISINE

FRESH SQUEEZED COCKTAILS

CATERING & PRIVATE EVENTS

950 GULF SHORE DRIVE • 850-837-2247
WWW.LAPAZDESTIN.COM

Restaurant Guide

Mon.-Fri. 11 AM-7 PM 46 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-654-4800. info@harryts.co.

OLD BAY STEAMER Wide variety of fresh steamed seafood served in every imaginable combination. Choose from crab, shrimp, lobster, oysters, clams, mussels, and fresh catch of the day. Pasta and steak/seafood pairings also offered. Friendly, efficient service. Open daily for dinner, with full bar. \$4-27, 102 Santa Rosa Blvd., Okaloosa Island, 664-2795.

ORIGINAL WATERFRONT CRAB SHACK Located on the water. The Crab Shack serves crab, shrimp, oysters, mussels, scallops and assorted local fish in an informal and family-friendly atmosphere. Crab steamer buckets, fried seafood baskets, sandwiches and po-boys, and some land-based items. Open daily for lunch and dinner. Daily specials, inside and outside dining. Full bar. \$3-45. 104 Miracle Strip Pkwy., Fort Walton Beach. 850-664-0345.

POMPANO JOE’S Come on in for some fun and fresh seafood with a very exciting flavor. Try our famous reggae rolls and our garlic crusted grouper! Lunch and dinner. Open daily from 11 AM 2237 Scenic Gulf Highway, Destin. Take Holiday Road South, turn right on scenic Hwy. 98, drive down about two blocks, and you’ll find us on the left side. www.pompano-joes.com. 850-837-2224.

SALTWATER GRILL We provide a relaxing, casual atmosphere designed to heighten the enjoyment of our customers’ dining experience. Most of our tables have entertaining

views of a 25,000-gallon aquarium filled with dozens of exotic fish. Our Gulf fresh seafood and choice steaks are AMazing. We welcome you to join us. Open daily—Sun.-Thu., 4-10 PM, Fri.-Sat., 4-11 PM. Panama City Beach, 850-230-2739.

STINKY’S FISH CAMP Seafood is king at this informal Santa Rosa Beach eatery. Oysters “all ways,” crawfish pie, catfish or frog legs meuniere, and gumbo are just a few of the Louisiana-inspired dishes. Service is friendly and attentive. Open daily 11 AM to 10 PM Serving brunch on Sunday from 10 AM to 3 PM Beer, wine and live music at Stinky’s Bait Shack from 6 to 9 PM 5960 Scenic Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-3053.

THE SURF HUT Miramar Beach, 850-460-7750. SURFHUTDESTIN.COM

STEAKS

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE serves the finest aged, corn-fed USDA Prime beef. Broiled in a trademark 1,800° broiler and served on a plate heated to 500 degrees, your steak is presented sizzling hot at your table. Happy hour daily from 5 to 7 PM in any of our three bars, including the new East Bar. We boast an array of private event spaces, our own private billiard room, valet parking, and live entertainment five nights a week from *Billboard*-charting recording artist Michael J Thomas (upon availability). Open seven days a week at 5 PM For reservations, call 850-837-RUTH (7884) or visit www.RuthsChrisDestin.com.

SAMUEL’S ROADHOUSE Steaks—USDA choice or higher, aged, and hand cut daily, coated with our signature sauce and fire-grilled. Burgers—juicy and fire-grilled, made from the trimmings of ribeyes, strips and tenderloins, lightly seasoned with unique texture and flavor. Plus seafood, salads, appetizers. Daily specials, full bar. Open for dinner Mon.-Thu. and Sunday, 5-9 PM; Friday and Saturday, 5-9:30 PM. Lunch Wednesday and Sunday, 11 AM-2 PM. 114 John King Road, Crestview, 850-423-1003. www.samuelsroadhouse.com

SUSHI

HARBOR DOCKS on the historic Destin Harbor has been serving simply prepared Gulf to table seafood from its own markets since 1979. Offering hearty breakfasts, a lunch menu featuring blue plate specials alongside authentic Thai dishes, and the area’s best sushi by world famous Chef Yoshie Eddings. In addition to traditional Gulf seafood dishes, there is something for everyone. 538 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-837-2506. harbordocks.com.

JACKACUDAS SEAFOOD & SUSHI is a locally-owned seafood and sushi restaurant overlooking the historic Destin Harbor. The name derives from a famous fishing hole located 34 miles southwest of the Destin Harbor at 30°04.250N and 87°02.125W. Specializing in fresh, locally sourced seafood and products to provide our guests with classic Gulf Coast seafood dishes with New South culinary preparation. Open daily, 11 AM-10 PM 56 Harbor Blvd., Destin, 850-424-3507. www.jackacudas.com.

TAPAS AND WINE

LA CREMA TAPAS AND CHOCOLATE Spanish-inspired tapas restaurant featuring unique tapas and Spanish wines. The European vibe provides a relaxing atmosphere where we encourage guests to share dishes, converse and enjoy Rosemary Beach living. Open 11 AM-9 PM 38 Main St., Rosemary Beach, 850-624-7282, lacrematapas.com.

WINE BARS

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ AND WINE BAR in Shalimar is an eclectic restaurant serving lunch and dinner with a varied menu of tapas style plates, flatbreads, Panini, award-winning ZinGouda burger and lasagna at dinnertime, and unique desserts. Our wine list includes wines from around the world. We host fundraising events and are available for any special occasion. Open Mon.-Thu. 11 AM-9 PM, 11 AM-10 PM Fridays, and 5-10 PM Saturdays. 1193 B Eglin Parkway, Shalimar, 850-651-5100. twistedgrapewinebar.com

Want to be included
in our listings?

Email us at
Office@BeachcomberDestin.com
or submit online at
BeachcomberDestin.com.

All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/websites for up-to-the-minute details.

Where to Spend Your Happy Hours

If your bar isn't listed here, you need to email chris@beachcomberdestin.com immediately!

Brotula’s Seafood House & Steamer
210D Harbor Blvd., Destin
850-460-8900
When: Mon.-Fri., 2-5 PM.
Drink Specials: Half off house wines, domestic beers, well cocktails and select appetizers.

Camille’s at Crystal Beach
2931 Scenic Highway 98, Destin
850-337-8860
When: 3-5 PM daily.
Drink Specials: Lots, including Camille’s Signature Sangria. Plus a stunning view of the Gulf.

Coyote Ugly Saloon
HarborWalk Village,
Destin
850-460-7065
When: Wednesday through Saturday plus daily specials from 3 to 6 PM.
Drink Specials: \$6 Coyote Bombs, \$6 Car Bombs, \$5 Fireball.

Fokker’s Pub
215 Miracle Strip Parkway SE Unit #1, Fort Walton Beach
850-244-6666
When: 3-7 PM every day except Tuesday (closed).
Drink Specials: \$2 domestic beers, \$3 well drinks (Jack, Jim, Bacardi, etc.), \$3 house wines, \$1 off everything else.

Graffiti & the Funky Blues Shack
34902 Emerald Coast Parkway, Destin
850-424-6650
GraffitiFBS.com
When: 4-7 PM daily, late night happy hour Friday and Saturday, 10 PM-midnight.

Grande Vista
Emerald Grande, HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-337-8100, ext. 1550
When: 4-6 PM daily.
Drink Specials: All drinks half off (except bottles of wine and Drink Special of the Day), plus specially priced apps.

The Harbor Tavern
Destin Harbor
850-842-2377
When: 2-6 PM daily.

Harry T’s
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-654-4800
When: Mon.-Fri., 11 AM-7 PM—downstairs bar only.
Drink Specials: Half off drinks.

Jackacudas
36120 Emerald Coast Parkway, Destin
850-460-2909
When: Monday-Friday, 2-6 PM
Drink Specials: \$4 wells, \$4 house wine by the glass, \$4 domestic drafts. Plus \$5 appetizers (Dynamite Shrimp, Southern Fried Okra, Loaded Potato Chips) and \$6 select sushi rolls.

Jimmy Buffett’s Margaritaville
HarborWalk Village, Destin
850-460-7700
When: Monday-Friday, 10 PM-close.
Drink Specials: \$3 14-ounce Bud Light or Landshark draft, \$4 Barefoot cabernet and chardonnay, \$5 “Who’s to Blame” margaritas and “5 O’Clock Somewhere” cocktails.

La Paz
950 Gulf Shore Drive, Destin

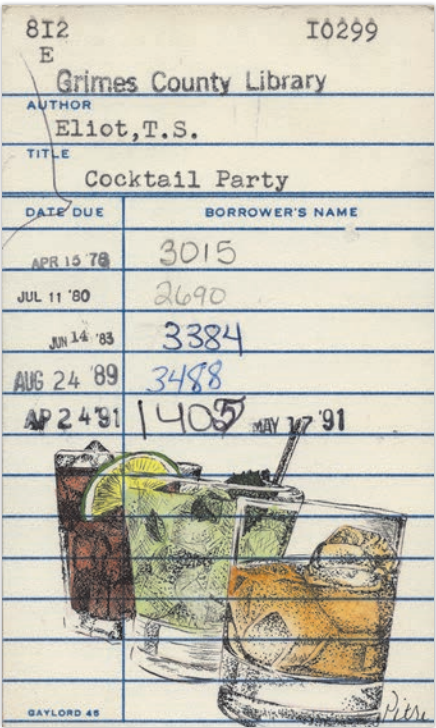
850-837-2247
When: 4-6 PM daily.
Drink Specials: \$5 top shelf Margaritas, FREE chips and salsa.

Pallet Bar and Grill
449 Eglin Parkway NE, Fort Walton Beach
850-863-1399
When: Monday-Friday, 3-6 PM
Drink Specials: \$1 off beer and liquor. Also, Power Hour Saturdays and Sundays during football season from 11 AM to noon—FREE Miller Lite, Bud Light and Yuengling.

Restaurant Paradis
82 S Barrett Square, Rosemary Beach
850-534-0400
Drink Specials: Daily from 5 to 6 PM—New Amsterdam Vodka Martinis for \$5. Every Tuesday and Thursday from 5 to 7 PM—\$5 select martinis and \$7 select wines.

Rockin Tacos Grill & Tequila Bar
The Boardwalk
Okaloosa Island
850-226-8226
When: Late night happy hour 9 PM-close.
Drink Specials: 2-4-1 Rockin’ Ritas, 2-4-1 Sangria, 2-4-1 SKYY cocktails, \$2.25 domestic drafts, \$3.75 import drafts. Half off all appetizers.

Sammy’s
1224 Santa Rosa Blvd.,
Fort Walton Beach
When: Early happy hour, 1-6 PM Late night happy hour, 2-4 AM Never a cover charge for escorted women, military, or restaurant-hotel-bar employees.
Drink Specials: Early happy hour—two



“Cocktails.” Art by Heidi Pitre. More at heidipitre.com.

for \$5 well drinks, \$10 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge. Late night happy hour—two for \$6 well drinks, \$12 buckets of beer, two-for-one shot specials, no cover charge after 3 AM

Twisted Grape Café and Wine Bar
1193B Eglin Parkway, Shalimar
850-651-5100
When: Monday-Friday, 11 AM-7 PM
Drink Specials: \$1 off all Twisted (house) wines.

Let's Get It Started

By Carl "Redbeard" Simpson

It's that time again. New year, new healthier you. If this is you, congrats! Getting in shape helps us with so many aspects of life. We look better in photos and have more options in clothes. Those seem to be the most important to some folks, but we also live longer, happier and more social lives.

The benefits of fitness are many. Since you are reading this, I don't need to sell you on getting in better shape—I just need to offer some advice on getting started.

START WITH YOUR DIET

Be honest with yourself. Start with a real look at what you consume. Write down everything that you eat and drink over a three-to-five-day period. When doing this, try to include the weekend. For a lot of us, that is when most of our indulgences occur. After taking a hard look at your data, look at what needs to be reined in. Too much sugar (sweets, sodas, southern sweet tea) is a huge culprit, so cut way back. Potato chips and cheese puffs are delicious, but not for daily consumption. Save that for maybe once a week.

I have a general rule of thumb for people. If something makes you have a twinge of guilt when you eat it, it's for a reason. You won't feel guilty eating good, minimally processed food. If weight loss is a goal, don't crash diet. It's not sustainable. Use a calorie calculator to determine how many calories you need to sustain your current weight. I recommend looking at themayoclinic.org in their healthy lifestyle section.

Once you have how many calories you need to sustain yourself, reduce by a few hundred calories a day. Get these calories in healthy, nutrient-dense foods. You are going to be building some new muscles, so make sure that protein is a sizable part of your plan.

Do not get obsessed with the scale. Focus on changes in your body composition. You will find yourself having more lean muscle mass and less fat when you combine diet with exercise. The scale will wobble up and down with a downward overall trajectory. Remember that this is a lifestyle change, so it takes time. Hold yourself accountable, and stay the course.

START MOVING

Now for the fun part. Use your current level of fitness as a guide to begin. If you are not in the best of shape, it's okay. We all start somewhere. Find something that you enjoy that gets you moving. Walks, jogs, swimming, bike rides...doesn't matter. I just need you to move!

A couple days a week, get moving at a reasonably sustainable brisk pace. If you can, grab a device with a heart rate monitor. Find out the zones needed for your age group and goals, then monitor with your device. You will find that it becomes a fun challenge. If you do not want to wear an iWatch or Fitbit, it's all good. Use something called Rate of Perceived Exertion. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 10 being very strenuous, go to an RPE of 7 for 8-10 minutes. Back down for a couple mins and then go back up to 7 again.

Do this at least a couple days a week for 30 to 45 mins to increase your aerobic capabilities and boost your metabolism.

DON'T FORGET STRENGTH TRAINING

We have to lift some weights. Cardio is helpful, but strength equals longevity. Muscles protect our bodies and organs, burn more calories, and look better in your mirror than fat. Just because you do strength training does not mean you will look "bulky." You are never too old or out of shape to strength train in some form. In short...do it!

If you aren't quite sure on how to get started or have never done resistance training, grab a session from a qualified professional and let them show you the ropes. When you are getting started, focus on compound movements that help more than one muscle group. Work with squat movements, upper body push-and-pull movements and some rotational movement. Do your strength training a couple of times a week to get started. You will be surprised at how quickly your body can adapt to new demands.

RECOVER

Take your time to warm up before each daily exercise session. Nothing crazy, just get the blood flowing a bit. That can be walking, jogging, jumping jacks, etc. After each session, take time to stretch. As you get farther along, your workouts become more intense, your diet gets sharper, and you adapt to a healthier lifestyle.

Congrats on making the right choice. Stick to it. Your body and mind will thank you for it. Good luck! Email me with any questions at redbeardstrong@outlook.com or on Instagram [@redbeard_strong](https://www.instagram.com/redbeard_strong).

Till next time...

Carl "Redbeard" Simpson is a fitness junkie, certified personal trainer and nutritionist, and dedicated martial arts practitioner. He is committed to helping people be the best version of themselves. "Move better – be better – Redbeard Fitness!"



Camille's
Destin, FL

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HAPPY HOUR • WINE PAIRINGS

Events

All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/websites for up-to-the-minute details. Send us your March 5 and beyond events by 5 PM Wednesday, **Feb. 19**. Please submit events in the format used here. Photos welcome. Email chris@beachcomberdestin.com.

THURSDAY, FEB. 6

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SATURDAY, FEB. 8

CHILI COOKOFF AND MARKET
De'France Antiques, Fort Walton Beach, 10 AM-2 PM
Defranceantiques.com
Share your AMazing chili—call 850-314-7500 to sign up for FREE. Then show up with your crock pot and enjoy the Saturday Market with local vendors, artists and crafters.

COMPLIMENTARY TROPICAL RE-UNION WEDDING VOW RENEWAL
Lucy Buffett's LuLu's, Destin, 2 PM
www.LuLuBuffett.com/Destin



Celebrate your love and commitment by officially renewing your wedding vows at LuLu's. Registration begins at 11 AM, with the complimentary wedding vow renewal ceremony performed by popular officiant and Parrot Head **Hurricane Jane Carver** at 2 PM. Be sure to pre-register so LuLu's can have Certificates of Reunion ready for each couple.

Complimentary champagne toasts, wedding cake and flowers for the "brides," plus prizes for the couples who have been married the longest and shortest and who are dressed the most festively. Register online or call 850-710-5858.

EIGHTH ANNUAL ROCK THE ROAD 5K & 10K
Pompano Joe's, Miramar Beach, 8:30 AM-Noon
www.JLEC.org
The rock 'n roll themed race—dress as your favorite icon—benefits **The Junior League of the Emerald Coast's** Child Clothing Project.

FRESH START FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN MARDI GRAS BALL
Emerald Coast Convention Center, Okaloosa Island, 7-11 PM
FreshStartFL.com
Silent auctions, food, music, and lots of dancing to benefit the nonprofit that helps local children and families overcome homelessness and achieve self-sufficiency. Tickets are \$75 each, tables of 10 \$700 each. Sponsorships available. Call 850-243-5648 for more info.

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SUNDAY, FEB. 9

BRUNCH, RHYTHM & BREWS
HarborWalk Village, Destin
HarborWalkVillage.com
Enjoy brunch and brews at **Harry T's, Jackacudas** and **Margaritaville**, then soak up the sounds of **The Two Hoodoos** on the main stage at 2 PM.

LA LUMIERE PRESENTS "MADLY GIVING"
The Lakehouse at WaterColor Inn & Resort, Santa Rosa Beach, 3-8 PM
www.hannahmartinsparty.com

Hannah Martin's annual fundraiser benefits **Special Olympics Florida – Walton County** and **Westonwood Ranch**. Dress in quirky cocktail attire to match this year's "Alice in Wonderland" theme, and enjoy the "Mad Makeover Room," quirky cocktails, decadent food served family style, and entertainment beyond your wildest dreams. Individual tickets are \$500 and can be purchased online.

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

MONDAY, FEB. 10

TECHNOLOGY IN FOCUS
Destin Library, 10 AM
850-837-8572
FREE to attend, but registration is required.

TUESDAY, FEB. 11

BEANSTALK BRIGADE FOR AGES 4-7
Destin Library, 4 PM
850-837-8572
Kids will explore their imaginations with great stories using longer picture books, poetry, flannel stories, folk tales, and expressive art. FREE to attend for beginning readers—no registration required.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

THE RISE OF WHITE NATIONALISM IN 21ST CENTURY AMERICA
Destin Library, 2 PM
850-837-8572
Former Southern Poverty Law Center president **Richard Cohen** speaks. FREE—no registration required. Presented by the Friends Guild of the Destin Library.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

THURSDAY, FEB. 13

NAVARRE GARDEN CLUB PRESENTS "WHY GO NATIVE?"
Navarre Visitor Center, 1-3 PM
horth@navarreclub.org
Jytte Fawzy discusses the benefits of native plants. Email or call Ginger at 850-396-5494 for more info.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

FRIDAY, FEB. 14

SHARING & CARING VALENTINE'S DAY FUNDRAISER
AJ's on the Bayou, Fort Walton Beach, 5-9 PM
A portion of the dinner service will be donated to the Okaloosa County nonprofit.

FRIDAY, FEB. 14- SATURDAY, FEB. 15

THE 31ST ANNUAL SANDESTIN GUMBO FESTIVAL
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 5 PM Friday, Noon-4 PM Saturday
www.sandestingumbofestival.com
Sample a variety of gumbo and vote your favorite as the "People's Choice" winner. Dark or light roux? Chicken, sausage or seafood? Celebrity judges will name the area's best. Gulf Coast restaurants will be featured along with live music from **Dikki Du** and **the Zydeco Krewe** and children's activities. Plus—who will win Best Bloody Mary at the Beach?

More in this issue's Cover Story.

SATURDAY, FEB. 15

BEANS & BEADS MARDI GRAS FESTIVAL & CHILI COOK-OFF
Main Street, Crestview, 11 AM-4 PM
Music, vendors, delicious chili and more.

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SATURDAY, FEB. 15- SUNDAY, FEB. 16

VALENTINE TOUR OF HOMES
Various Locations Throughout South Walton, 10 AM-4 PM Saturday and Noon-4 PM Sunday
CulturalArtsAlliance.com
Valentine's weekend typically means romantic dinners and flowers for most, but for South Walton residents and visitors alike it also signals the highly anticipated annual Valentine Tour of Homes presented by the **Cultural Arts Alliance of Walton County**. The tour showcases stunning interiors, architecturally acclaimed homes and picturesque settings, bringing inspiration to tourgoers' winter weekend at the beach.

De'France
ANTIQUES & FLEA MARKET

TAKE THE TOUR

Fresh Fudge

Vintage, Re-Purposed, Shabby Chic, Custom Built & lots of Awesome Finds!

850-314-7500

230 Eglin Pkwy S.E.
Fort Walton Beach,
Florida 32548

Antique Show
at the
Fairgrounds
March 27-29

Saturday Market - Feb. 8th
Chili Cookoff - Feb. 8th
Furniture Painting Demo - Feb. 15th
Furniture Painting Workshop - Feb. 20th
Sign Painting Class - Feb. 28th

www.defranceantiques.com
www.facebook.com/defranceantiques
defranceantiques@gmail.com

Events

Tickets are available in advance and at the door the day of the event, valid for the entire weekend with one entry per house. Please note that as most of these homes are private residencies, they cannot be guaranteed as ADA compliant. Contact the CAA office in advance for questions regarding access.

SUNDAY, FEB. 16

BRUNCH, RHYTHM & BREWS

HarborWalk Village, Destin

HarborWalkVillage.com

Enjoy brunch and brews at **Harry T's, Jackacudas** and **Margaritaville**, then soak up the sounds of **BobbyD** on the main stage at 2 PM.

30A FARMERS MARKET

Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM

Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TUESDAY, FEB. 18

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM

850-689-5850

Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN

Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin

The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19

BEACHCOMBING 101

Navarre Beach Marine Science Station, 2-3 PM

Nbms.ticketbud.com

Learn all about seashells with a classroom presentation and guided walking tour of Navarre Beach. Cost is \$10 per person—preregistration required. Each participant will receive a session take-away. Visiting Snowbirds encouraged to attend.

LADIES' NIGHT

Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin

www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com

Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19- SUNDAY, FEB. 23

NINTH ANNUAL 30A WINE FESTIVAL

Alys Beach

30AWineFestival.com

Showcasing renowned vintners and beloved culinary personalities, the five-day celebration will benefit the **Children's Volunteer Health Network**. The festival kicks off with an intimate wine dinner featuring a four-course meal prepared by Alys Beach Executive Chef **Drew Dzejak**.

Thursday night, *Garden & Gun* magazine comes to life during Oysters & Champagne in Central Park. Friday night features Bourbon, Beer & Butts, a down-to-earth and lively barbecue, bourbon and beer tasting featuring some of the country's best pit masters, distillers and craft brewers accompanied by live music that'll have you tapping your toes.

Saturday offers an opportunity for wine-lovers to wine and dine as they indulge in tasting seminars followed by the evening's grand tasting along the town's picturesque streetscape. Rosé & Croquet on Sunday features rosé tastings, a delicious brunch, and the beloved croquet tournament.

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

BUBBLY BAYTOWNE

The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 5-7 PM

www.BaytowneWharf.com

An evening of FREE champagne for 21 and uppers at various Village merchants.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM

850-689-5850

Locally grown produce and more.

FRIDAY, FEB. 21

MARDI GRAS BIG EASY BAR CRAWL

HarborWalk Village, Destin, 6:30 PM

HarborWalkVillage.com

Dress in your Mardi Gras best for a bingo-style bar crawl. Pick up your cards at 6:30 and turn them back in for raffle drawing. Plus—compete for the title of Mardi Gras King and Queen at Coyote Ugly Saloon at 10 PM.

MARDI GRAS MASQUERADE

Destin Commons, 6-8 PM

Live music, FREE face painting and photo booth. Family-friendly parade starts at 7.

FRIDAY, FEB. 21- SATURDAY, FEB. 22

THE CITY OF DESTIN'S 14TH ANNUAL SPRING CRAFT SHOW

Destin Community Center, 9:30 AM-5 PM Friday, 9 AM-3 PM Saturday

Over 70 vendors display handcrafted jewelry, woodcarvings, painting, food items and more. Vendor booths available for \$45 (\$55 for non-residents of Destin). Call 850-654-5184. FREE to attend.

SATURDAY, FEB. 22

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET

Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM

GrandBoulevard.com

MARDI GRAS GOLF SCRAMBLE

Shalimar Pointe Golf Club, Shalimar, 8:30 AM

Presented by the **Heritage Museum of Northwest Florida**, with all proceeds benefiting the museum's education and community engagement initiatives as well as improvements to existing exhibits. Register at www.heritage-museum.org/special-events.

MARDI GRAS PARADE & PAWDI GRAS

HarborWalk Village, Destin, 2-7 PM

HarborWalkVillage.com

Fais Do Do performs at 2 PM, followed by dazzling floats and street performers in the parade at 4. Pawdi Gras pet costume contest follows at 5.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM

850-689-5850

Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET

Seaside, 8 AM

SeasideFL.com

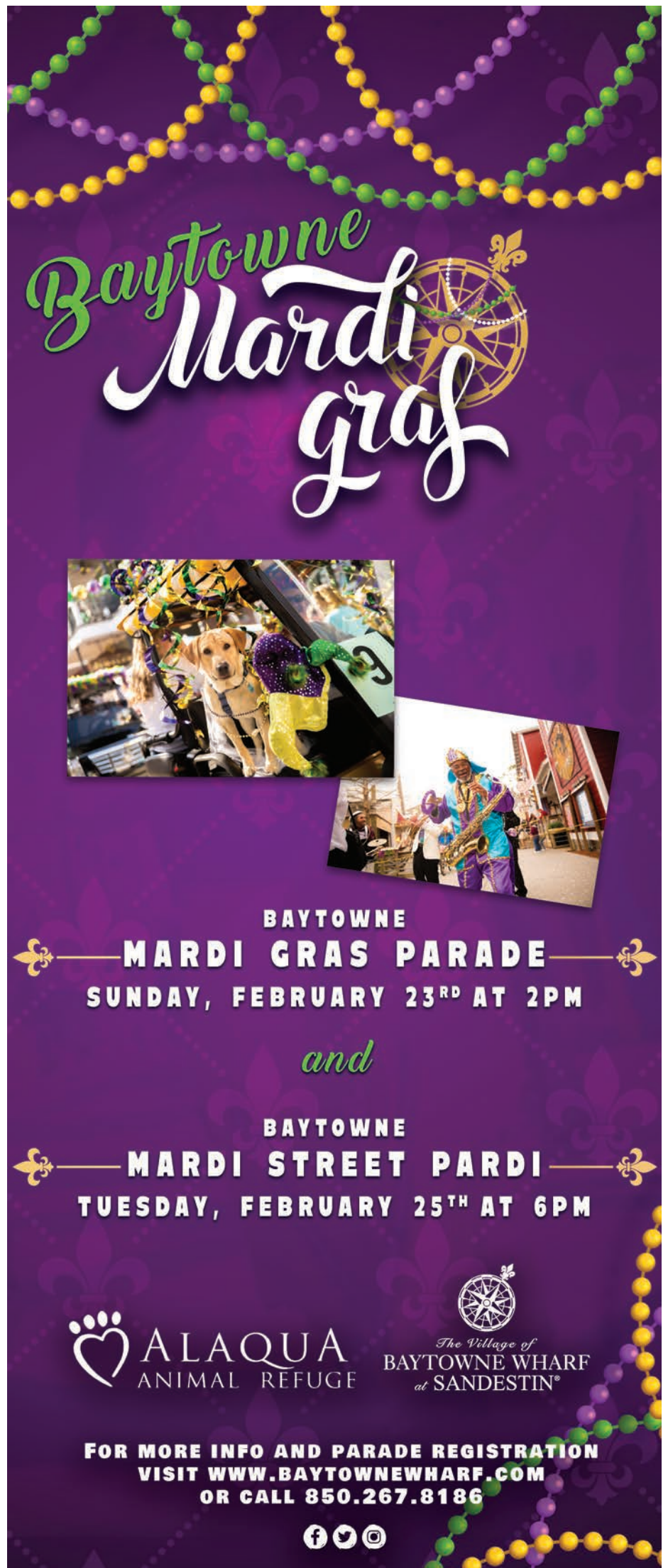
SUNDAY, FEB. 23

BRUNCH, RHYTHM & BREWS

HarborWalk Village, Destin

HarborWalkVillage.com

Enjoy brunch and brews at **Harry T's, Jackacudas** and **Margaritaville**, then soak up the sounds of Beachcomber Music Awards Hall of Famer **Joe Fingas** on the main stage at 2 PM.





**Baytowne
Mardi
Gras**

**BAYTOWNE
MARDI GRAS PARADE**
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23RD AT 2PM




and

**BAYTOWNE
MARDI STREET PARDI**
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25TH AT 6PM

 **ALAQUA**
ANIMAL REFUGE

 **THE VILLAGE OF
BAYTOWNE WHARF
at SANDESTIN®**

**FOR MORE INFO AND PARADE REGISTRATION
VISIT WWW.BAYTOWNEWHARF.COM
OR CALL 850.267.8186**

Events

MARDI GRAS PARADE
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 2 PM
www.BaytowneWharf.com
Costumed dogs and humans, unique and colorful floats, live music and a barrage of beads, moon pies and other trinkets.

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

TUESDAY, FEB. 25

BAYTOWNE MARDI STREET PARDI
The Village of Baytowne Wharf, Sandestin, 6 PM
www.BaytowneWharf.com



Beachcomber Music Award winner Fly Dents.
Let down your hair and let the good times roll with live music, street performers and more.

BEANSTALK BRIGADE FOR AGES 4-7
Destin Library, 4 PM
850-837-8572
Kids will explore their imaginations with great stories using longer picture books, poetry, flannel stories, folk tales, and expressive art. FREE to attend for beginning readers—no registration required.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

SIP SIP HOORAY! WINE TASTING & FOOD PAIRING
Camille's Café, Destin, 3-5 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28-
SATURDAY, FEB. 29

JOSEPH RIBKOFF FALL 2020 PREVIEW TRUNK SHOW
Today's Boutique, Destin, 11 AM-6 PM Both Days
Get a sneak peek and try on sample sizes from the upscale yet functional line. Call 850-837-5565 for more info.

SATURDAY, FEB. 29

BEACH CLEANUP
WET Inc., 818 U.S. 98, Destin, 9 AM
Wetdestin.com
Teams will be assigned to Norriego Point Beach and the Destin Harbor. Meet at the

WET shop. Call 850-974-0134 for more info.

GRAND BOULEVARD FARMERS MARKET
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 9 AM-1 PM
GrandBoulevard.com

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

SEASIDE FARMERS MARKET
Seaside, 8 AM
SeasideFL.com

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

30A FARMERS MARKET
Rosemary Beach, 9 AM-1 PM
Satisfying salts, teas, spices, blends and more.

MONDAY, MARCH 2

ONLINE SAFETY AND SECURITY
Destin Library, 10 AM
850-837-8572
FREE to attend, but registration is required.

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

RISE & RUN
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
The run club meets at Camille's for coffee at 6 AM, then embarks on a barefoot beach run at 6:15.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

LADIES' NIGHT
Camille's at Crystal Beach, Destin
www.CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
Half off drinks for the ladies! Two bucks off sushi rolls!

THURSDAY, MARCH 5

LADIES NIGHT OUT: AN EVENING OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND FUN
The Henderson, Destin, 5:30-8:30 PM
EmeraldCoastLNO.com
Learn. Explore. Laugh. Ladies are invited to attend an exclusive celebration of health, wellness and fun. From Botox to aching feet, chair massages and fabulous mini-makeovers, attendees will have a chance to talk one-on-one with over 18 physicians and experts about various health and wellness topics.

Ladies will be greeted with champagne upon arrival and will also indulge in a delicious display of heavy *hors d'oeuvres* and cocktails, plus the opportunity to win over 25 door prizes. Tickets are \$50 per person and can be purchased now online. This event is held in partnership with **Fort Walton Beach Medical Center**, **Twin Cities Hospital** and **Destin Chamber of Commerce**.

OKALOOSA COUNTY FARMERS MARKET
Northwest Florida Fairgrounds, Fort Walton Beach, 7 AM-2 PM
850-689-5850
Locally grown produce and more.

Find & submit listings at beachcomberdestin.com.

All information is subject to change. Please refer to the contact numbers and/or emails/websites for up-to-the-minute details.

Pets

Submit your best friend(s) to chris@beachcomberdestin.com.

ADOPT,
DON'T SHOP
JAKE THE DOG

Nancy Schimmer from Save Our Cats and Kittens (SOCKS) writes: "Jake the Dog came to SOCKS via Milton. He's about one year old. He was trapped as a community cat when he was very young and tamed into the sweetheart he is today."



To learn more, call 850-863-5756 or visit **saveourcatsandkittens.com**. Or stop by and pick up an application at 498 Carmel Drive in Fort Walton Beach.

PET OF THE ISSUE
HUBERT

"Hubert" **Hotdog Humphrey**, a 16-year-old senior dachshund from Santa Rosa Beach, writes: "I'm loyal, courageous, independent and very intelligent. I enjoy travel, smelling flowers, squirrel patrol, riding in my stroller, and wearing bowties. I ring a service bell for treats—my favorites are yogurt and blueberries."



When he was younger, Hubert won first place in the 2010 Seaside Halloween Derby Dachshund Race. He launched his 2016 presidential campaign at the Seaside Fourth of July parade, and has almost 9,000 followers on Instagram. Check out Hubert's spectacular ears and more **@hubert_hotdog_humphrey**.

Upcoming Pet Events

Submit your info for March 5 and beyond by Thursday, **Feb. 21**, please. Email **chris@beachcomberdestin.com**.

SATURDAY, FEB. 8

TOP HATS & TAILS – A CAUSE FOR CLAWS
The Island by RL, Okaloosa Island, Cash Bar Open at 5 PM, Dinner at 6 PM
SaveOurCatsAndKittens.com



This year's **SOCKS** (Save Our Cats & Kittens) fundraiser has a steampunk flair. Dress is semi-formal, with plated dinner, music, silent auctions and cash bar. The featured speaker is **Jennifer Bitner**, executive director of the Pensacola Humane Society.

Tickets are \$60 and up and available online. For sponsorship inquiries, call Nancy at 850-865-6866.

THURSDAY, FEB. 13

MY FURRY VALENTINE 2020
Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, Miramar Beach, 3:30-5:30 PM
Dog-Harmony.org
Dog-Harmony's annual doggie social with live music from **Rob Romans**, light bites and drinks. Doggos and humans are encouraged to dress in matching Valentine-themed attire, and judges will award prizes for the best costumes. Please, no prong, choke or shock collars.

SATURDAY, FEB. 22

PAWDI GRAS
HarborWalk Village, Destin, 5 PM
HarborWalkVillage.com
Following a fun afternoon of Mardi Gras events—parade, live music by **Fais Do-Do**—sign up your pet for this year's costume contest.

SUNDAY, FEB. 23

THIRD ANNUAL HOPS FOR HOUNDS
World of Beer, Destin Commons, 10:30 AM-12:30 PM
Dog-Harmony.org
Take a dog walk to each of the murals at Destin Commons and snap a photo with you and your furever friend. Then, enjoy an after party with beer, live music, and World of Beer's dog menu. The first 150 registered walkers receive a complimentary dog bandanna, and admission to the event.

Registration is \$20 per person. This event is rain or shine—no refunds. Please, no prong or shock collars.

To inquire about sponsorship opportunities, email **hello@dog-harmony.org**.

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

CORKS & CANINES
Cantina Laredo, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, 5-7 PM
Dog-Harmony.org
Sports and rock 'n roll memorabilia silent auction and cork pull. No prong, shock or choke collars, please.

SERVICES ON THE BEACH

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sundays – 7:30 AM beach services at the Crab Trap, Destin; and the Crab Trap, Okaloosa Island Boardwalk. Sunset beach service at Henderson Beach State Park, Destin, 5:30 PM. DestinUMC.org

HOPE ON THE BEACH

Beach worship at 8 AM at Ed Walline Beach, across from Gulf Place in Santa Rosa Beach; and at Inlet Beach, at the Orange Street beach access. For more information, call 850-267-0322 or email pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org.

NAVARRE BEACHSIDE CHURCH

Nondenominational Christian church service meets outdoors every Sunday at 9 AM in the Navarre Beach parking lot, located at 8579 Gulf Boulevard. Children’s church provided, pets always welcome. Look for the white tents. 850-939-1533. www.navarrebeachchurch.com.

DESTIN

CORPUS CHRISTI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Mass schedule (through Sept. 30)—Sunday, 8 AM and 10:30 AM; Saturday, confessions from 4 to 4:30 PM, mass at 5 PM; daily mass Monday through Friday, 8 AM; First Friday Adoration, 8:30-9:30 AM; First Saturday Mass, 8 AM Holy Days of Obligation, 8 AM and 6:30 PM. 307 Beach Drive.

DESTIN UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Contemporary service in the Sanctuary Sundays at 9 AM. Contemporary Xalt service at 10:30 AM

in the Destin Life Center. Traditional service in the Sanctuary at 11 AM. DestinUMC.org

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF DESTIN

Sunday bible study at 9:15 AM, worship service at 10:30 AM, prayer and outreach at 5 PM. Wednesday service at 6:15 PM. 201 Beach Drive, 850-837-6515.

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday worship service, 9:30 AM. Sunday school for kids, confirmation class for youth, and adult bible study, 10:45 AM. 4325 Commons Drive, 850-654-1679.

RESURRECTION CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday vigil mass, 5 PM; Sunday masses, 8 and 10:30 AM; daily liturgies Monday through Friday, 8:30 AM; Holy Days of Obligation, 8:30 AM and 6 PM; Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Fridays, 9-10 AM; confessions, Saturdays, 4-4:45 PM or by appointment. 259 Miramar Beach Dr., 850-837-0358.

SAFE HARBOR PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Sunday school at 9:30 AM, worship service at 10:30. 801 Airport Road, 850-837-2133.

SHORELINE CHURCH

Non-denominational Sunday services at 8:30, 10 and 11:30 AM. 140 Palmetto Street in the old Nighttown building. www.shorelinechurch.net

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Service at 10 AM Sundays. 307 U.S. 98 E, 850-650-2737.

VILLAGE BAPTIST CHURCH

Sunday services at 9 and 10:30 AM. 101 Matthew Blvd., one block south of U.S. 98 E, 850-837-8107.

FORT WALTON BEACH

GATHERING

151 Eglin Pkwy NE. comegather.com.

ISLAMIC DA AWA CENTER OF FWB

6 Hollywood Blvd. SW, 850-664-0373, lavidaeterna.org

KINGDOM HALL OF JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES

216 Jonquil Avenue NW.

ST. MARKELLA & DEMETRIOS GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH

Sunday service at 10 AM. 400 U.S. 98 E, Mary Esther, 850-244-0822.

ST. SIMON’S ON THE SOUND EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Sunday services at 8 and 10:30 AM and 5 PM. 28 U.S. 98 W, 850-244-8621.

MIRAMAR BEACH

ALIVE CHAPEL

Sundays – coffee fellowship, 9 AM; praise and worship, 9:30 AM; pastor’s message, 10 AM. Located at 12381 U.S. 98. www.theALIVECHAPEL.org

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHRISTIAN CHURCH

Sunday worship services at 8:45 and 11 AM. Nursery and children’s church is available. Wednesday bible study at 7 PM. Located at 306 S. Geronimo St., three blocks west of Silver Sands Outlet Mall. 850-837-7561.

NICEVILLE

NICEVILLE CHURCH OF CHRIST

Sunday bible study at 9 AM, worship at 10 AM. Sunday evening service, 5 PM. Mid-week bible study Wednesdays at 7 PM. 801 John Sims Parkway E, 850-678-2911.

SHALIMAR

RESURRECTION ANGLICAN CHURCH

1928 Book of Common Prayer Service, 10 AM Sundays, communion service second and fourth Sundays, morning prayer, first and third Sundays. 66 8th Street, 850-651-9800.

30A / SOUTH WALTON

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF SEAGROVE

Sunday services at 10 AM and Wednesdays at 6 PM. 4915 E Hwy. 30A, Seagrove, 850-231-2884.

GOOD NEWS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday services – 8:15 AM, traditional; 9:30 and 11 AM, contemporary. 4747 U.S. 98 W, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-622-9191.

HOPE ON THE BEACH

Beach worship at 8 AM at Ed Walline Beach, across from Gulf Place; and at Inlet Beach, at the Orange Street beach access. Worship at 9:30 AM at Shunk Gulley Oyster Bar, on the corner of 393 and 30A. And worship at 11 AM at our 98 Church Campus, at 3834 U.S. 98 W, Santa Rosa Beach. For more information, call 850-267-0322 or email pastorj@hopeonthebeach.org.

SANTA ROSA BEACH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Interdenominational service 10 AM Sundays. 3524 U.S. 98, 850-267-7599.

ST. RITA CATHOLIC CHURCH

Saturday vigil, 5:30 PM, 7 PM (en Espanol); Sunday, 8 AM, 11 AM and 5 PM; Mon.-Sat., 8:30 AM; confessions every Saturday, 4-5 PM. For Holy Day services, please call the office. 137 Moll Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, just off U.S. 98. 850-267-2558. www.saintritaaparish.org





EMBRACE

FLORIDA KIDS

We're Embrace Florida Kids.

We provide homes, healing and hope to vulnerable children who come from families in crisis, placed in foster care at no fault of their own. Together, we're embracing children and empowering families to create home environments where adversity meets God's grace and unconditional love.

Ready to get involved? Learn how you can love and support vulnerable kids in our Northwest Florida communities.

1-833-EFK-KIDS · [EMBRACE FL KIDS.ORG](http://EMBRACEFLKIDS.ORG)



Sometimes, the thing
a child needs most...is to feel loved.

WE DIDN'T INVENT
OUTDOOR DINING,
BUT WE'VE CORNERED
THE MARKET.



LOCATIONS IN ALABAMA & GEORGIA
VISIT FIVE-BAR.COM & SEE HOW SIMPLE DINING OUT SHOULD BE

People

Dear Prudence: You Are Cordially Invited to Meditate



By Bruce Collier

Dr. Prudence Farrow Bruns has been a practitioner of Transcendental Meditation (TM for short) since her encounter in the late 1960s with Maharishi Mahesh Yogi. She went on to become a teacher of TM, studied Sanskrit at the University of California at Berkeley, and earned a PhD. Bruns has also worked in theater and film, written articles on Asian Studies and other subjects, done charitable work, and traveled extensively.

Bruns retired to Florida with her husband in 2008, where she continued to write, study and teach TM. On Wednesday, **Feb. 12**, at 10 AM, Bruns will be speaking and teaching TM at the Walton County Coastal Branch Library in Santa Rosa Beach. She recently took time to talk to *Beachcomber*.

"I enjoy teaching," she says, "I'm still very enthusiastic."

The daughter of Hollywood director John Farrow and film and stage

actress Maureen O'Sullivan, Bruns grew up in a beautiful California home, attending parties at the homes of film legends, and traveling all over the world. Brought up in a traditional Catholic household and education, she later rebelled, drifting into drugs and near-despair before finding her way. Bruns chronicled her sometimes harrowing life journey and spiritual development in an autobiographical book published in 2015, titled *Dear Prudence – The Story Behind the Song*.

Beatles fans will recognize the reference, a song written by the partnership of John Lennon and Paul McCartney, and recorded by The Beatles on *The White Album*. Lennon, George Harrison and McCartney were studying with Maharishi Mahesh Yogi in Rishikesh, India at the same time as Bruns (who was around 20). Concerned that Prudence was studying too intensely, isolated in her room, they reportedly knocked on her door and sang the song to her ("Dear Prudence...won't you come out to play?").

Places to Go: Destin, 30A, Fort Walton Beach and Beyond

ANTIQUES

DE FRANCE ANTIQUES & FLEA MKT. with over 80+ vendors, lots of unique items to choose from. 230 S.E. Eglin Pkwy. 850-314-7500.

SMITH’S ANTIQUES MALL & INTERIORS MARKET 25,000 sq. ft. and 94 vetted dealers have made Smith’s the favorite with decorators, locals and tourists for over 20 years. Voted Best of the Emerald Coast for 14 consecutive years, Finest on the Emerald Coast, and Best in Destin...need we say more? Mon.-Sat., 10 AM-6 PM; Sun., 11 AM-5 PM 12500 Emerald Coast Parkway, Miramar Beach (near Silver Sands). 850-654-1484. **www.smithsantiquesmall.com.**

BEACH SCIENCE

EMERALD COAST SCIENCE CENTER A unique museum home to hands-on, interactive exhibits for all ages, with over 35 exotic animals and SMALLab Learning. 31 SW Memorial Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-664-1261. **www.ecscience.org.**

GOLF

REGATTA BAY GOLF & COUNTRY CLUB This award-winning 18-hole course offers an extraordinary golfing experience for players of all

skill levels and was named one of *Golf Digest’s* Top Places to Play. Equipment rental available. 465 Regatta Bay Blvd., Destin, 850-337-8080. **www.regattabay.com.**

SANTA ROSA GOLF & BEACH CLUB Referred to as the “Purest golf in the Florida Panhandle” by *Golf Magazine*, this 18-hole, par 72 course offers five sets of tees and a challenge for every skill level of handicap. Situated on 80 pristine acres in the heart of Santa Rosa Beach, this course has a unique character only found around the Highway 30A corridor. Holes three through five wind around a complex of dunes, all within a few hundred yards of the Gulf of Mexico. Dining, driving range, putting green and club rentals available. 334 Golf Club Drive, Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-2229. **www.santarosaclub.com.**

MARINE PARKS

GULFARIUM MARINE ADVENTURE PARK Delight in watching dolphins leap and sea lions play during spectacular shows! Or participate and interact directly with these and other remarkable marine animals including stingrays, seals and penguins during interactive programming (advance reservations required). Enjoy educational exhibits and beautiful Gulf views. Open daily at 9 AM 1010 Miracle Strip Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-243-9046. **www.gulfarium.com.**

MUSEUMS

DESTIN HISTORY & FISHING MUSEUM Open year round, Tuesday through Saturday from 10 AM to 4 PM Call for holiday hours of operation. Admission is \$5 for adults, \$4 for seniors and military and \$3 for children. 108 Stahlman Avenue, Destin, 850-837-6611.

INDIAN TEMPLE MOUND MUSEUM Artifacts and displays showing the rich Indian history of this area. 139 Hwy. 98SE, FWB, 850-833-9595.

MUSIC STORES

FW VINTAGE RECORDS Full service record store with over 20,000 vintage vinyl records and new music releases on vinyl. Audio systems, CDs, cassettes, record cleaning supplies, posters, pins, phono cartridges. Gift certificates, rewards program and limited repair service for turntables, speakers and receivers. Open Mondays and Wed.-Sun., 11 AM-7 PM; Tuesdays, 11 AM to 4:30 PM. 217 Racetrack Road NW, Fort Walton Beach, 850-384-6654. **www.fortwaltonvintagerecords.com**

LEITZ MUSIC Guitars, bass, drums and keyboards, plus recording, DJ and PA equipment. Sales, repairs and lessons. Gibson, Fender, PRS, Taylor, Martin, Ibanez and more. Open Mon.-Sat. 10 AM-7 PM, Sundays noon-5 PM Located in Uptown Station, Fort Walton Beach, 850-863-1099. **www.facebook.com/LeitzMusicFWB.**

PARKS & PUBLIC BEACH ACCESS

BEASLEY WAYSIDE PARK Picnic tables, public beach area, barbecue grills, bathhouse, and restrooms. Gulf side of Okaloosa Island, Hwy. 98W.

BLACKWATER RIVER STATE PARK NW of FWB off Hwy. 90. You can catch sight of lots of wildlife while camping, canoeing, hiking, and fishing. Milton, 850-983-5363.

BLUE MOUNTAIN BEACH Public parking for this access is located at the south end of CR-83 and Scenic Highway 30-A.

BRACKIN WAYSIDE PARK Gulf side of Okaloosa Island on Hwy. 98W. Facilities include restaurants, saloons, children’s playground, beach volleyball, three beach accesses, showers, public restrooms, and picnic table.

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK offers hiking, birding, beachcombing, swimming, fishing, canoeing and kayaking along with nine historic buildings. Located at 23937 Panama City Beach Parkway (U.S. 98), 12 miles east of 331, seven miles west of Highway 79. 850-233-5059.

CESSNA BAY Picnic tables, parking, restrooms and boat access. 1476 N. CR-393.

CLEMENT E. TAYLOR CITY PARK This park is named after one of Destin’s early settlers and is on Choctawhatchee Bay. Chock full of shade trees, there are picnic areas and restrooms, but no camping. Destin, off Calhoun Avenue.

DUNE ALLEN In Dune Allen beach this access has parking, but no bathrooms, showers or picnic area. 5753 Hwy 30-A W., Santa Rosa Beach.

ED WALLINE A large public beach access in South Walton, providing handicapped parking, picnic tables, restrooms and showers. Intersection of Hwy 30-A and CR-393.

EDEN GARDENS STATE PARK An historic homestead under majestic, moss-draped oaks

with a home surrounded by lawns and seasonal gardens. Tours of the home are Thursday through Monday hourly beginning at 10 AM with the last tour at 3 PM The park and picnic areas are open daily from 8 AM to sunset and located on CR-395 north off Hwy 98 in Point Washington. Call 850-231-4214 for more information.

GRAYTON BEACH STATE RECREATION AREA Camping, picnics, hiking, swimming, salt-water fishing, and boating. Showers and electricity are part of the AMenities. Access from S. Hwy. 30-A, South Walton, 850-267-8300.

GRAYTON DUNES Handicapped and public parking plus beach access. Behind the Red Bar in Grayton Beach.

GULF SHORE MANOR Public restrooms, handicapped and public parking. 3468 E. Hwy 30-A, Seagrove Beach.

GULFVIEW HEIGHTS Located at the end of Gulfview Heights St, behind Goatfeather’s restaurant, this access offers parking, picnic areas and restrooms.

HENDERSON BEACH STATE PARK This park has it all: camping, swimming area sheltered picnic areas, grills, and restrooms. But there is no boat ramp and jet skis and other personal watercraft are prohibited. 17000 Hwy. 98W, Destin, 850-837-7550.

INLET BEACH This area offers handicapped and public parking, restrooms and dune walkovers to the beach. 438 S. Orange St. in Inlet Beach.

LEGION BAY Picnic tables, public parking, boat ramp and restrooms. Intersection of Ponce de Leon and Crest Dr, 191 Crest Dr, Sandestin.

MARLER MEMORIAL PARK Public beach area, picnic tables, barbecue grills, boat ramp, restrooms and bathhouse. Bay side of Okaloosa Island, off Santa Rosa Blvd.

MIRAMAR BEACH ACCESS Parking with public beach access. Scenic Hwy 98 and Driftwood Road, adjacent to Pompano Joe’s.

TOPSAIL HILL PRESERVE STATE PARK offers a wide variety of natural resources, including 3.2 miles of public beach access with majestic dunes over 25 feet tall. Our 1,600 acre preserve includes rare coastal dune lakes, old-growth long leaf pines and sand pine scrub, and a variety of wetlands offer a bird watching and hiking paradise. Visitors may bike, walk, or enjoy a quick ride to the beach on our timely tram service to swim, fish, sunbathe or beachcomb. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. A park store offers a variety of camping items, as well as souvenirs and bike, kayak, canoe and SUP rentals. Topsail Hill offers weekly ranger programs for all visitors to enjoy. Gregory E. Moore RV resort features a (non-heated) swimming pool and shuffleboard courts. Furnished bungalows are available for weekly stays. 7525 West County Highway 30A Santa Rosa Beach, 850-267-8330. **www.floridastateparks.org/topsailhill.**

THRIFT STORES

JUNKYARD DOG GIFT N THRIFT Voted Finest on the Emerald Coast, the store showcases a wide selection of art, furniture, home décor, linens, military items and collectibles. Rare pieces and antiques arrive daily from donors who support the store’s mission. All proceeds go to support the Humane Society and Adoptive Center at PAWS. Open Tue.-Sat., 10 AM-4 PM. 179 Eglin Parkway NE, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-1830. Follow **jdgiftandthrft** on Facebook.

People CONTINUED...

Numerous legends have grown up around the song, and about her time with the Beatles, but Bruns recalls them as kindhearted and dedicated fellow students, and “very funny” in their attempts to raise her spirits.

The song notwithstanding, Bruns’ studies with the Maharishi instilled in her a deep interest and lifelong passion for the healing potential of TM. “The role of the mind is critical,” she says. TM offers a tool to get at the root of physical and mental stress accessing “the deeper parts of the mind, [which are] more silent and stable.”

Bruns uses the example of a plant—“without deep roots, it can’t thrive. A shallow mind is the same.”

Physical position is a part of the process, incorporating stretches and relaxation to provide grounding for the mind. Bruns says there is no definite age level at which TM can begin to be learned. Children under 4 might be too young, and a 10-year-old can absorb the more complex principles. Attendees of TM classes don’t fall into easily identifiable categories, but often tend to be female, somewhat more receptive to learning ways to battle stress.

Retirees and people “in the last chapter of life” are also frequent attendees. Bruns expects her Feb. 12

presentation will be predominantly of retirees, given the time of day.

Bruns maintains that TM can offer a way not only to relax and live more comfortably, but can also unlock creativity, vision and potential. She also sees it as a remedy to the “every man for himself” attitude that prevails. “We are all responsible for each other.”

Though TM is neither a religion nor a medical procedure, Bruns has noted that a number of people who take instruction in TM come to it from therapists and psychologists. Some of them have told Bruns, “You’ve done the most work for them.”

Attendees of the Feb. 12 presentation can expect to hear a little of Bruns’ life story, some Hollywood anecdotes, and “why I am the way I am.”

The Coastal Branch Library is located at 437 Greenway Trail, behind the South Walton Government/Education Complex, off U.S. 331 South, in Santa Rosa Beach. The presentation is free for the public with limited seating. For details, visit **www.youseemore.com/walton.**

Longtime Beachcomber contributing writer Bruce Collier recently appeared as Winston Churchill in Emerald Coast Theatre Company’s Storytellers series. To great acclaim, we might add. And just did.

They Tell Us That It's Evolution... The Southern Gothic

By Nikki Hedrick

Every band goes through an evolution. It's the growth that begins as the first seed sprouts into songs. As **The Southern Gothic** knows all too well, not all growth is linear.

In 2008, **Connor Christian** and The Southern Gothic was formed. Around 2013, they looked poised for something massive, with a music video taking the number one spot on CMT and landing on *Billboard's* Country chart. In less than three years, they disbanded. And in about three more, they reformed with a simplified name and a tour stop at Santa Rosa Beach's Warehouse360 **Feb. 22.**

The tale of The Southern Gothic isn't a simple one. "We had these big moments, and then the week after that record came out, the owner of the record label we were on found out he had terminal cancer," says Christian. "And six days later, he died. After that happened, that honestly sort of broke him and he quit the music business altogether. And we kind of found ourselves in limbo."

When the band went on hiatus with no foreseeable plans of reforming, Christian began writing for a Nashville publisher. No longer on stage regularly, but still in the music business.

"We remained friends and remained close after that," he says. "We were hanging out, decided to get together for a jam. We got together and started playing some of the old stuff, that went well. And I started showing (Spirko) some songs that I had written, some of the stuff that I thought was some of the best stuff that I had written that didn't get cut and that I thought might fit with our style. We jammed on some old stuff, jammed on some new stuff, and we decided, 'Hey, let's get back out on the road and see what happens.'"

The next twist to The Southern Gothic tale is a positive one. An opportunity arose through SAE Institute Nashville to record a song. "He needed a band to record a song for his class so they could come in and watch it being done and see how everything works. And we did that and we were happy with how it turned out. So we released it as a single, and we did a little 10 or 12-day tour. The song came out on a Friday, and we played in New York City that night, and all these kids that were out there had never seen the band before. They knew all the words to the song



The Southern Gothic takes the stage at Santa Rosa Beach's Warehouse360 Saturday, Feb. 22.

Publicity Photo

that had only been out a few hours. So I'm like, well maybe there's a new generation of music fans that would dig this."

One of the most obvious changes for the reformed band is the simplified name. What began as Connor Christian and The Southern Gothic is now simply The Southern Gothic. Christian says the change is mostly due to a very practical reason.

"We were having a lot of weirdness with the name for some reason. And I looked this up, and there are literally hundreds of thousands of people in America with the last name Christian. But somehow, because it was in the name of a band, everybody thought that we were a religious act. In some cases, we were getting offered gigs that we were definitely not the right fit for. We were getting offered gigs that were religious gigs, big church camps and stuff in the summer.

"And I'm like, 'Have you guys listened to us?' Basically, just based on name and

based on the fact that we were popular, they were offering us these gigs, and it was definitely not something that we felt comfortable taking. We felt like that would be dishonest. And then on the other end, we were losing out on some gigs because they were more like outlaw country festivals and stuff and they were like, 'Oh, we don't want religious acts.'"

Christian often found himself sending photos of his ID to prove his point, but it was becoming unavoidable that the name had unintended consequences.

The other major change? The Southern Gothic is now a four-piece as opposed to having five members. Three original members remain—Christian, lead vocals, guitar and piano; Spirko, fiddle, guitar and piano; and Shawn Thacker, drums. The fourth, Quinn Loggins, is most often found on bass but he is a multi-instrumentalist.

When it comes to the future, Christian is hopeful for good reason. "When

we started advertising that we had a new thing coming out, our Spotify numbers started spiking. One of our old songs picked up almost 400,000 plays and got over a million plays. So I think there's some momentum. I think people are waiting to hear what it is that we come out with. I think that everybody's going to be pretty excited about it—I hope they're as excited as we are.

"We don't mind taking the step back, I think it's good for us. If we were to come back out and immediately go and play 1,500-seat rooms as an opener without kicking the rust off a little bit and stretching out and remembering how to do it the right way...that's not where I want to start. That's a lot of pressure."

The Southern Gothic will have a new EP out this summer entitled *Burnin' Moonlight* and future tour plans are already being kicked around.

Learn more at
TheSouthernGothicMusic.com.

Rob Romans Picks the 10 Most Romantic Songs

Heads up, y'all... Valentine's Day is only weeks away. You have no excuse for letting it sneak up on you again this year. But in case you do let the days slip by and you're caught in a pinch, let me suggest a handful of songs that you should download and have playing in the background as you give that special someone a box of drugstore candy, and a bouquet of whatever flowers happen to be left standing—or, more likely, wilting—at the grocery store.

Yup, you're screwed, but at least the music will be good. Let's go...

#10
Alan Jackson, "Remember When"

For those of us with a few years under our belt, you can't get much sweeter than this classic walk down memory lane.

#9
Alexi Murdoch, "All of My Days"

Surprised you with this one, right? Bet you didn't think a cover artist like old Rob Romans would even know about a hip indie like Murdoch? Well, I do, and he's great. This song is for you if your life has been tough—especially in the companionship department—and you now have found that person who completes you.

Great, now I have that scene from *Jerry Maguire* running through my mind.

#8
John Denver, "Annie's Song"

Soaring, joyful, and just plain lovely. Denver's love song to his then-wife Annie Martell Denver was written in about 10 minutes...*after* he just finished an X Games-worthy ski run down some mountain in Colorado.

See, ladies? Just because it's done fast, doesn't mean it ain't great!

#7
The Marshall Tucker Band, "Can't You See"

He loves her. She leaves him and doesn't even say goodbye. He threatens to kill himself. Emo love song gold, and the guys from MTB didn't even wear eyeliner or dye their hair Vantablack...

Look it up, baby birds, I'm not here to feed you.

#6
Howie Day, "Collide"

A darn good tune that captures the feelings we all have about uncertainty that segues into comfort, and the slow burn love that comes from reconnecting and reconciling.

#5
Matt Nathanson, "Come On Get Higher"

Pure puppy love here, but it's a sweet song with some pretty evocative lyrics.

#4
Loggins and Messina, "Danny's Song"

The go-to song for you young newlyweds. You've got love, dreams and hopes, but not much else. Keep



Musician Rob Romans and wife Gina at a Fore Her fundraising event in 2019.

close together, hand in hand. Good things will come to you in time!

#3
Train, "Marry Me"

Yeah, I know—so syrupy sweet, it almost makes your teeth hurt just to listen. But dang it, I like the song. When I play it at gigs, folks—especially the ladies—always sing along, so I guess I'm not alone.

#2
Van Morrison, "Someone Like You"

Perhaps the greatest love song written in the modern age for couples finding love late in their lives. Not only is the message spot-on, but Morrison's throaty, somewhat-raspy singing style grabs you deep and holds on tight. Perfection.

#1
Rob Romans, "Old Bainbridge Road"

Really?! He kept us reading through nine picks—all of them pretty good selections—just to plug one of his own songs?

Yup. Deal with it.

I used to drive down Old Bainbridge Road in Tallahassee, on my way to pick Gina up on our dates. Old Bainbridge Road is one of Florida's great canopy roads. They grew so thick and close to the edge of the blacktop that on a few occasions, I lost the passenger side mirror to a tree/pedestrian/cyclist.

It doesn't matter to this writer that you, gentle reader, may not be familiar with this love song. Trust me—my wife Gina is, and the way she lights up when I play it for her is all that matters.

Rob Romans performs regularly along the Emerald Coast. Check out his upcoming dates in this issue's Live Music section.

Upcoming Music Releases

FEB. 7

- The Cadillac Three, *COUNTRY FUZZ**
- Cream, *Goodbye Tour Live 1968*
- Green Day, *Father of All...**
- The Homesick, *The Big Exercise**
- Richard Marx, *Limitless*
- John Moreland, *Lp5**
- Nada Surf, *Never Not Together**
- Napalm Death, *Logic Ravaged by Brute Force (EP)*
- John Prine, *The BBC Sessions: The Lost Broadcasts 1971-1973*
- The SteelDrivers, *Bad for You**
- Stone Temple Pilots, *Perdida**
- Svart Crown, *Wolves Among the Ashes*
- Hank Williams, *Pictures from Life's Other Side: The Man and His Music in Rare Photos and Recordings*. Six-CD box set with book of over 200 unpublished photos.

FEB. 14

- Anvil, *Legal at Last*
- Bobby Hatfield, *Stay with Me: The Richard Perry Sessions*
- Hollywood Undead, *New Empire, Vol. 1**
- Huey Lewis & the News, *Weather**
- Monsta X, *ALL ABOUT LUV*
- Carly Pearce, *Carly Pearce.** busbee, R.I.P.
- Nathaniel Rateliff, *And It's Still Alright**
- Tame Impala, *The Slow Rush**
- Tennis, *Swimmer**
- Robert Vincent, *In This Town You're Owned**

FEB. 21

- Best Coast, *Always Tomorrow**
- The Chainsmokers, *World War Joy*
- Greg Dulli, *Random Desire**
- Grimes, *Miss Anthropocene**
- Guided by Voices, *Surrender Your Poppy Field*
- Sonny Landreth, *Blacktop Run**
- Jason Lee McKinney Band, *Pieces*
- Pat Metheny, *From This Place**
- Ozzy Osbourne, *Ordinary Man**
- Yacht Rock Revue, *Hot Dads in Tight Jeans*

FEB. 28

- Allman Brothers Band, *Trouble No More: 50th Anniversary Collection**
- Chet Baker, *Chet Baker Sings*
- Beneath the Massacre, *Fearmonger*
- Big Gigantic, *Free Your Mind*
- Robert Cray Band, *That's What I Heard**
- Grant Green, *Nigeria*
- Sergio Mendes, *In the Key of Joy**
- Charlie Parker, *The Savoy 10-Inch LP Collection**
- Robert Plant, *Digging Deep*. A box set of seven-inch singles spanning three decades of Mr. Plant's excellent solo recordings.
- The Secret Sisters, *Saturn Return**
- Soccer Mommy, *color theory*

* Also on Vinyl
** Also on Vinyl and Cassette

Sources: Allmusic.com, Pauseandplay.com

Music > The Listening Room: Records, Podcasts and More

Musicians - send your CDs, vinyl and/or cassettes to Beachcomber, 543 Harbor Blvd., Suite 103, Destin, FL 32541. Email MP3s and streaming links to chris@beachcomberdestin.com.

HOMEGROWN

Stephanie Leigh Hall
Playing for Change
Independent



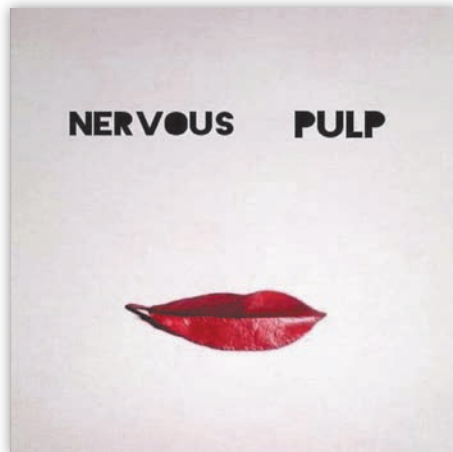
Now calling the Gulf Coast home, this songbird is full of bluesy notes and

southern twang. In between songs about love and life, two stand out the most to me. "The Burn," with its jazzy, waltz-like rhythm that transports you to a smoky speakeasy, captures an authentic vintage vibe without leaning on tropes. And the closing song, "Move Over," an acapella anthem with a simple rhythm, has roots deeper than recorded music history. Welcome to the area, Stephanie—can't wait to hear what you do next.

- Nikki Hedrick

Nervous Pulp
The Fuzzy Orange EP
Bandcamp.com

Pensacola alternative rockers deliver with their spunky debut EP. A culmination of styles and influences makes Nervous Pulp both unique and a little difficult to accurately describe. *The Fuzzy Orange EP* is a



great moment for the new band as they work towards their goal of a full-length release. If you like high-energy, funky grooves and rock that's a bit off the beaten path, give this band a spin.

- Nikki Hedrick

AVANT GARDE

Maya Beiser, Ambient Orchestra
Bowie Cello Symphonic, Blackstar
Islandia Music



David Bowie passed away four years ago, a few days after the release of his final album, *Blackstar*. The album picked up a couple of posthumous

Grammys, but Bowie might have appreciated Maya Beiser's tribute even more. Cellist and composer Beiser has been described as "avant garde," making her a perfect interpreter for the work of Bowie, himself an artistic adventurer and innovator. This album is a track for track "reimagining," and it's amazing to hear how finely a cello can evoke Bowie's distinctive, often hypnotic, voice and style, while never lapsing into imitation. Think of it as Bowie Distilled.

- Bruce Collier

EDITOR'S CHOICE – THE BEST OF 2020 (SO FAR)



Kiwi jr., Football Money
Della Mae, Headlight
Bill Fay, Countless Branches
Pond Diver, Flashbacks. Straight outta Florence, Alabama, and soulful as hell.
Marcus King, El Dorado
Bombay Bicycle Club, Everything Else Has Gone Wrong
Pale Saints, The Comforts of Madness (30th Anniversary)
Carolyn Sampson – Minnesota Orchestra – Osmo Vanska, Mahler 4

- Chris Manson



From our friends at AJ's: "We are heartbroken to learn about the passing of our dear friend and longtime house band (Mike and the Micros) bandleader Mike Turner. Mike was an incredible talent and a wonderful person. Our deepest condolences to his family, friends, fellow musicians, and everyone who loved him."

SANDJAM
MUSIC FESTIVAL
PANAMA CITY BEACH, FL
PRESENTED BY pepsi
APRIL 24-26, 2020
WWW.SANDJAMFEST.COM

FRIDAY

SHINEDOWN

SATURDAY

Blink-182

SUNDAY

weezer

PODCAST ROUNDUP



On the first 2020 episodes of **M*A*S*H Matters**, co-host and longtime cast member Jeff Maxwell (Igor) welcomes the great Loretta Swit for a fascinating two-parter, in which the former Margaret “Hot Lips” Hoolihan shares behind-the-scenes anecdotes and somehow manages to work in a brief master class in acting.

It’s essential listening for fans of the TV series, as well as anyone who appreciates spending quality time with someone who loves animals, is passionate about her craft, and comes across as a genuinely kind soul.



PASTE used to be a print publication—they notably featured local singer-songwriter Gileah Taylor on one of their sampler CDs about a decade ago—but now exist solely in the digital universe. And they flood my inbox with about a dozen emails every day.

The PASTE Podcast is blessedly short—about half an hour and change—and I enjoyed the first episode of the year. PASTE’s editor and TV correspondent rave about *Schitt’s Creek*, the Eugene Levy-Catherine O’Hara comedy series that finally found a huge audience on Netflix, and now I feel compelled to catch up.

Elsewhere, two youngish gals gush about 2020’s upcoming music releases—they’re of the Fiona Apple-P.T. Anderson-Strokes can do no wrong stripe, but their enthusiasm comes off as genuine. The podcast closes with a live in-studio performance by the band American Authors, whose new tunes are pretty good.

- Chris Manson

Live Music

Musicians and venues: Email chris@beachcomberdestin.com to get your gigs listed here.

THURSDAY, FEB. 6

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
Karaoke with TIM & RUSTY MORINELLI, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
RUSTY HAMMERSTROM, 4 PM
AUSTIN JENNINGS, 8 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

HORIZONS LOUNGE AT THE HENDERSON, Destin
ROB ROMANS, 5-8 PM

JOHN WEHNER’S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

LJ SCHOONER’S, Niceville
Open Mic and Karaoke, 5:30 PM

PENSACOLA MUSEUM OF COMMERCE, Pensacola
DANA AND SUSAN ROBINSON – JAMIE ANDERSON – JOE CROOKSTON – DENNIS WARNER, 6 PM
RadioLive. Doors open at 5 PM. Tickets are \$10 per person and can be purchased online at WUWF.org.

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

STINKY’S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

FRIDAY, FEB. 7

AJ’S, Destin
DJ BOOM, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
LUKE LANGFORD BAND, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
HORSESHOE KITTY, 6-10 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
JASON FINDLEY, 4 PM
JASON CLARK, 8 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

DOCK ON THE ISLAND, Okaloosa Island
CAPTAIN JACK Dueling Piano Bar Show, 8:30 PM

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
TEENAGE BOTTLEROCKET – TIGHTWIRE – SCARS AND STRIPES, 8 PM

HEMINGWAY’S ISLAND GRILL, Pensacola Beach
BUOY 83, 6 PM

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 5-9 PM

JOHN WEHNER’S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
THE WAILERS, 7 PM

MAJESTIC BEACH RESORT, Panama City Beach
Salute to Glen Campbell, 7:30 PM
Mr. Campbell’s right-hand man of 15 years shares songs and stories.

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

PROPS BREWERY, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 7-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR, Shalimar
BILL GARRETT, 6-9 PM

VFW, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 7-10 PM

SATURDAY, FEB. 8

AJ’S, Destin
DJ SERPENT, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
HORSESHOE KITTY, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
LUKE LANGFORD BAND, 6-10 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK, Panama City Beach
WEBB WILDER, 6:30-8 PM
FREE with \$2 admission fee to the park. Limited to first 100 guests beginning at 5:30 PM. Food and drink available at 6.

CLUB LA, Destin
BUCKCHERRY, 8 PM (\$24.99 and up)

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

DOCIE’S DOCK, Fort Walton Beach
BRANDON DAY, 7 PM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
THE HOODOOS, 8 PM-Midnight

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

OLD FLORIDA FISH HOUSE, Seagrove Beach
BOUKOU GROOVE, 8 PM

PALLET BAR AND GRILL, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 7-11 PM

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RED ROSE GENTLEMEN’S CLUB, Okaloosa Island
BLAC YOUNGSTA with LIL MIGO, 10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

3RD PLANET BREWING MOTHERSHIP, Niceville
ROB ROMANS, 6 PM

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR, Shalimar
MICHAEL BETHEA, 6-9 PM

SUNDAY, FEB. 9

AJ’S, Destin
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM
DJ DAN, 4 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 4 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et al., 11 AM

Rob
o
m
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n
s

*Acoustic covers,
originals, and lies.*

The more ya' drink,
the better I sound!

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www.reverbnation.com/nicevillero

Live Music

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, HarborWalkVillage.com
THE TWO HOODOOS, 2-4 PM
Brunch, Rhythm & Brews

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

OLD FLORIDA FISH HOUSE, Seagrove Beach
MAX McCANN, 6 PM

STINKY’S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

MONDAY, FEB. 10

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
RUSTY HAMMERSTROM, 4 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, FEB. 11

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

SAENGER THEATRE, Pensacola
BLACK VIOLIN, 8 PM (\$25 and Up)

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
LOST DOG STREET BAND, 8 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

THE BAY, Santa Rosa Beach
THE NEON TEARS, 6 PM

DOC’S OYSTER BAR, Valparaiso
Karaoke, 6:30 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

THURSDAY, FEB. 13

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
Karaoke with TIM & RUSTY MORINELLI, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

FISH OUT OF WATER, WaterColor
WILL THOMPSON, 6 PM

GRAND BOULEVARD AT SANDESTIN, Miramar Beach
ROB ROMANS, 5 PM
Mr. Romans is performing for Dog-Harmony’s My Furry Valentine. More info in this issue’s Pet Events.

JOHN WEHNER’S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
MATTHEW AND GUNNER NELSON, 6 PM

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

STINKY’S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

FRIDAY, FEB. 14

AJ’S, Destin
DJ BOOM, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
CHASIN’ JAYMIE, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
SOMETHING FISHY, 6-10 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

AMERICAN LEGION POST 235, Fort Walton Beach
BOBBYD, 6-9 PM
Valentine’s Party

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

DOCK ON THE ISLAND, Okaloosa Island
CAPTAIN JACK Dueling Piano Bar Show, 8:30 PM

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FOGHORN’S, Panama City
THE HOODOOS, 9 PM-1 AM

JIMMY’S JUKEBOX, Fort Walton Beach
HABITUAL OFFENDER, 9 PM-1 AM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

OLD FLORIDA FISH HOUSE, Seagrove Beach
IKE BARTLEY, 8 PM

THE PERFECT PIG, WaterColor
MARK LEADON, 6 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SAENGER THEATRE, Pensacola
TESLA – BAD MARRIAGE, 8 PM (\$44.50 and up)

SATURDAY, FEB. 15

AJ’S, Destin
DJ SERPENT, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHASIN’ JAYMIE, 6-10 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER, 9 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

ELKS, Okaloosa Island
BOBBYD, 6 PM
Ballroom dancing, \$5 at the door.

FOGHORN’S, Panama City
THE HOODOOS, 9 PM-1 AM

FUNKY BLUES SHACK, Destin, 850-424-6650
GROUP THERAPY, 8 PM-Midnight

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

OLD FLORIDA FISH HOUSE, Seagrove Beach
WILL THOMPSON BAND, 8 PM

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

THE REP THEATRE, Seaside, www.LoveTheREP.com
ZAKK JONES – JACKIE MYERS, 7:30 PM (\$30, \$24 for REP Members)

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin, RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

SLICK MICK’S, Niceville
ROB ROMANS, 6:30 PM

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR, Shalimar
BILL GARRETT, 6-9 PM

THE VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF, Sandestin, BaytowneWharf.com
DIKKI DU AND THE ZYDECO KREWE, Noon-4 PM
Sandestin Gumbo Festival

SUNDAY, FEB. 16

AJ’S, Destin
DJ DAN, 4 PM
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 4 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5 PM

BAMBOO WILLIE’S, Pensacola Beach
THE HOODOOS, 3-7 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et al., 11 AM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin, HarborWalkVillage.com
BOBBYD, 2 PM
Brunch, Rhythm and Brews

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

OLD FLORIDA FISH HOUSE, Seagrove Beach
MAX McCANN, 6 PM

STINKY’S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
SAMANTHA FISH, 8 PM

MONDAY, FEB. 17

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
RUSTY HAMMERSTROM, 4 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, FEB. 18

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin, CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE, Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
WISHBONE ASH, 7 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

DOC’S OYSTER BAR, Valparaiso
Karaoke, 6:30 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS, Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach, 850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

Live Music

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SAENGER THEATRE, Pensacola
GORDON LIGHTFOOT, 8 PM (\$44 and up)

THE SPOT TAVERN, Milton
BUDDY SEA, 8 PM

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
Karaoke with TIM & RUSTY MORINELLI, 9 PM

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 PM

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5 PM

CAMILLE'S, Destin,
CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 3-5 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

FUDPUCKER'S, Destin
HASHTAG SWING BAND, 7 PM

HORIZONS LOUNGE AT THE HENDERSON,
Destin
ROB ROMANS, 5-8 PM

JOHN WEHNER'S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC
HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

PENSACOLA BAY CENTER, Pensacola
LAUREN DAIGLE – JOHNNYSWIM, 7:30 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
CHERYL JONES, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

STINKY'S BAIT SHACK, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 7-10 PM
Ladies Night

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR,
Shalimar
BENGHAZI GRESHAM, 6-9 PM

FRIDAY, FEB. 21

AJ'S, Destin
DJ BOOM, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
THE SIX PIECE SUITS, 9 PM

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
ROSHAMBO, 6-10 PM

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

DOCK ON THE ISLAND, Okaloosa Island
CAPTAIN JACK Dueling Piano Bar Show,
8:30 PM

EDWARD'S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

GI JADE, Fort Walton Beach
GROUP THERAPY, 7-10 PM

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 5-9 PM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SAENGER THEATRE, Pensacola
DENNIS DeYOUNG, 8 PM

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR,
Shalimar
BOBBYD, 6-9 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
ALLEN STONE – SAMM HENSHAW, 9 PM

SATURDAY, FEB. 22

AJ'S, Destin
DJ SERPENT, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
LUKE LANGFORD BAND, 9 PM

AJ'S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
LA STRANGERS, 6-10 PM

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER

CAMP HELEN STATE PARK, Panama City
Beach
LUCKY MUD, 6:30-8 PM
FREE with \$2 admission fee to the park. Limited
to first 100 guests beginning at 5:30 PM. Food
and drink available at 6.

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

HARBOR TAVERN, Destin
THE HOODOOS, 8 PM-Midnight

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin,
HarborWalkVillage.com
FAIS DO DO, 2 PM
Mardi Gras Parade and Pawdi Gras

HOG'S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

PROPS BREWERY, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 7-10 PM

REDD'S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

RUTH'S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR,
Shalimar
MICHAEL BETHEA, 6-9 PM

WAREHOUSE 360, Santa Rosa Beach
THE SOUTHERN GOTHIC, 7 PM

SUNDAY, FEB. 23

AJ'S, Destin
DJ DAN, 4 PM
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM

AJ'S, Grayton Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 4 PM

AJ'S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5 PM



JOHN WEHNER'S

VILLAGE DOOR

MUSIC HALL

CONCERT CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

01 Karaoke

01 Purple Monkey

07 The Original Wailers

08 Karaoke

14 Here Come the Mummies

15 Karaoke

20 Last in Line

22 Karaoke

23 New Orleans Night with Chubby Carrier and the Bayou Swamp Band

29 Karaoke

MARCH

06 Tony Lewis

07 The Eli Young Band

11 Uncle Kracker

13 Jelly Roll

20 Geoff Tate of Queensryche - Empire 30th Anniversary Tour

29 Pablo Cruise

TUES Trivia Night

THUR Karaoke

80 Seascape Drive Destin, FL 32550

Tickets available at: VillageDoorMusicHall.com or Ticketweb.com

NEW DATES ADDED DAILY!

Live Music

CAMILLE’S, Destin,
CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH,
Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL
CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et
al., 11 AM

THE FROG POND AT BLUE MOON FARM,
Silver Hill, AL
WILL KIMBROUGH – CARY MORIN – THE
KRICKETS, 2 PM

HARBORWALK VILLAGE, Destin,
HarborWalkVillage.com
JOE FINGAS, 2-4 PM
Brunch, Rhythm & Brews

JIMMY’S JUKEBOX,
Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 6-10 PM

JOHN WEHNER’S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC
HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
CHUBBY CARRIER & THE BAYOU SWAMP
BAND, 6 PM

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

OLD FLORIDA FISH HOUSE,
Seagrove Beach
MAX McCANN, 6 PM

STINKY’S FISH CAMP,
Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

MONDAY, FEB. 24

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
RUSTY HAMMERSTROM, 4 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, FEB. 25

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU,
Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin,
CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE,
Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

DOC’S OYSTER BAR, Valparaiso
Karaoke, 6:30 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS,
Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach,
850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton
Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE
FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

SAENGER THEATRE, Pensacola
JOE BONAMASSA, 8 PM

THURSDAY, FEB. 27

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
Karaoke with TIM & RUSTY MORINELLI, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHRIS HAYES, 5-9 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

HORIZONS LOUNGE AT THE HENDERSON,
Destin
ROB ROMANS, 5-8 PM

JOHN WEHNER’S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC
HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
Karaoke

LJ SCHOONERS, Niceville
Open Mic & Karaoke, 5:30 PM

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD THE SINGING BARTENDER, 7-10 PM

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

AJ’S, Destin
DJ BOOM, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
HORSESHOE KITTY, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
CHASIN’ JAYMIE, 6-10 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

AMERICAN LEGION POST 235, Fort Walton
Beach
BOBBYD, 6-9 PM
Fish Fry

CLUB LA, Destin
THE BLACK JACKET SYMPHONY, 7 PM
The symphony takes on Led Zeppelin’s immortal
classic Houses of the Holy.

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

ELKS, Okaloosa Island
REDSTONE, 7-10 PM

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
JORDAN BALLANTYNE, 5-9 PM

MODICA MARKET, Seaside
THE STEENOS, 5-7 PM

OLD FLORIDA FISH HOUSE, Seagrove Beach
TRUE SOUL, 8 PM

PROPS BREWERY, Fort Walton Beach
DONNIE MORGAN, 7-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR, Shalimar
BILL GARRETT, 6-9 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
RAILROAD EARTH, 8 PM

SATURDAY, FEB. 29

AJ’S, Destin
DJ SERPENT, 8 PM
BLACK EYED BLONDE, 9:30 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
CHASIN’ JAYMIE, 9 PM

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
HORSESHOE KITTY, 6-10 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 6 PM

AMERICAN LEGION POST 235, Fort Walton
Beach
BOBBYD, 6-10 PM
Luau! Admission is \$15 or two for \$25.

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
GUNNER, 9 PM

CUVÉE KITCHEN + WINE BAR, Destin
THE BONHOEFFERS, 5:30-9:30 PM

DOCIE’S DOCK, Fort Walton Beach
JOEY PETERS, 7 PM

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
KEVIN CARSON, 5-9 PM

JOHN WEHNER’S VILLAGE DOOR MUSIC
HALL, Destin, VillageDoorMusicHall.com
ARTIMUS PYLE BAND, 8 PM

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6-9 PM (East Bar)

TWISTED GRAPE CAFÉ & WINE BAR,
Shalimar, 850-651-5100
DONNIE MORGAN, 6-9 PM

VINYL MUSIC HALL, Pensacola
DEPARTURE – The Journey Tribute Band, 8 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

AJ’S, Destin
DJ DAN, 4 PM
JONES AND COMPANY, 4 PM

AJ’S, Grayton Beach
THE PICKLED PICKERS, 4 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
BRYAN BLUDWORTH, 5 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin,
CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
DEAN SADOWSKI, 10 AM-Noon

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

FAITH ASSEMBLY CHURCH, Miramar Beach
DONNIE SUNDAL – FLY DENTS – PHIL
CALHOUN – TAREVA HENDERSON BOONE, et
al., 11 AM

LOCAL CATCH, Santa Rosa Beach
FORREST WILLIAMS BAND, 4-7 PM
Sunday Funday

STINKY’S FISH CAMP, Santa Rosa Beach
THE STEENOS, 11 AM-2 PM

MONDAY, MARCH 2

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
RUSTY HAMMERSTROM, 4 PM

THE BOATHOUSE OYSTER BAR, Destin
ROSHAMBO, 9 PM-1 AM

TUESDAY, MARCH 3

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

CAMILLE’S, Destin,
CamillesAtCrystalBeach.com
TOM DeVOURSNEY, 3-5 PM

EDWARD’S, Rosemary Beach
JIM COUCH

HOG’S BREATH, Destin
BRANDON DAY, 5-9 PM

THE ISLAND BY HOTEL RL, Okaloosa Island
THE RIGHTLY SO, 7 PM

LA PAZ, Destin, LaPazDestin.com
SHANE CURLE, 6-9 PM
Taco Tuesday

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
REDD, THE SINGING BARTENDER, 6:30-10 PM

30A SONGWRITER MUSIC AND COFFEE,
Santa Rosa Beach
Open Mic Live, 7-10 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4

AJ’S ON THE BAYOU, Fort Walton Beach
WALLY CHRISTIAN, 5-9 PM

AJ’S OYSTER SHANTY, Okaloosa Island
Karaoke with TIM MORINELLI, 6 PM

DAT CAJUN PLACE, Panama City Beach
ADAM CALVERT, 6 PM

DOC’S OYSTER BAR, Valparaiso
Karaoke, 6:30 PM

ENLIGHTENED STUDIOS,
Fort Walton Beach
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

FOKKER’S PUB, Fort Walton Beach,
850-244-6666
PARADISE BAYOU, 6-10 PM

GREEN DOOR MUSIC HALL, Fort Walton
Beach
Wailing Wednesday Blues Jam with JOE
FINGAS & P-NUT, 9 PM-Midnight

REDD’S FUELING STATION, Santa Rosa
Beach, ReddsFuel.com
Open Mic Night, 7-10 PM

RUTH’S CHRIS STEAK HOUSE, Destin,
RuthsChrisDestin.com
JONES & COMPANY, 6-9 PM (Courtyard)
MICHAEL J THOMAS, 6:30-9 PM (East Bar)

THE VILLAGE OF BAYTOWNE WHARF,
Sandestin, BaytowneWharf.com
DION JONES & THE NEON TEARS, 7-9 PM
Wednesday Night Concert Series

Recommended Reading

FICTION

Elizabeth Strout

Olive, Again

Penguin Random House
Olive, Again, the sequel to the Pulitzer Prize-winning Olive Kitteridge, is a wonderful book. I'd dare to say it's even better than its predecessor. The stories in this lovely collection are loosely connected by setting—Crosby, Maine—and by character; Olive Kitteridge is at least mentioned in all 13 stories. Olive, her friends, and her neighbors somehow manage to age both gracefully and honestly in this emotional and moving book. This was one of my favorite reads of 2019, for sure.

- Marilu Morgan

Lee Goldberg

Lost Hills

Thomas & Mercer

Another must-read thriller from the prolific Mr. Goldberg. This one introduces homicide detective Eve Ronin, who investigates the grisly disappearance of a single mom and her two children while trying to earn the respect of the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's good old boys. She's competent, she's vulnerable, and I can't wait for Eve's inevitable return.

- Chris Manson

NONFICTION

Gretchen McCulloch

Because Internet: Understanding the New Rules of Language

Penguin Random House

Because Internet is a fascinating deep dive into how language has evolved as a result of the Internet. Author and linguist Gretchen McCulloch explains the history and cultural context of social acronyms (like LOL), memes and emoji. She discusses the reasons why people of a certain age text...like...this, and why people of another age don't use capital letters when they text. More than anything, McCulloch helps the reader understand that language is constantly changing to help humans better communicate. In the age of the Internet, this is happening faster than ever, and that's not necessarily a bad thing.

- Marilu Morgan

HUMOR

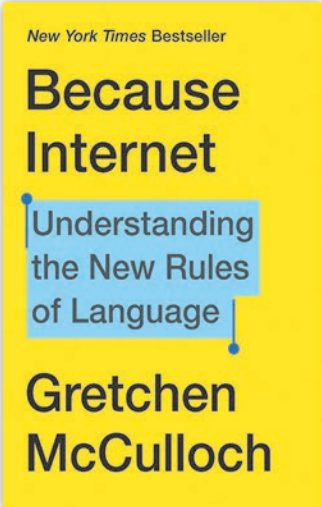
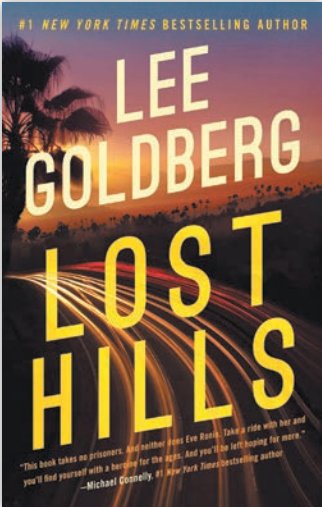
Patricia Marx & Roz Chast

You Can Only Yell at Me for One Thing at a Time: Rules for Couples

Celadon Books

The perfect Valentine's gift for your other half— especially if you've been together for a stretch. Ms. Marx's rules ring true, and the illustrations cement Ms. Chast's reputation as one of the great cartoonists of our times.

- Chris Manson



CHILDREN'S FICTION

Alison Farrell

The Hike

Chronicle Books

This delightful story follows three friends hiking in the woods. The labeled illustrations of the surrounding flora and fauna are captivating, and the adventure story is cute and compelling. I was especially charmed by the "notes from Wren's sketchbook"—funny and insightful drawings by one of the characters.



Reading The Hike will make you and your little one want to get outside and explore.

- Marilu Morgan

Amazon Charts

For the Week of Jan. 19, 2020

FICTION – MOST READ

- 1. J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix
- 2. J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
- 3. J.K. Rowling, Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire
- 4. Delia Owens, Where the Crawdads Sing
- 5. John Grisham, The Guardians

FICTION – MOST SOLD

- 1. Delia Owens, Where the Crawdads Sing
- 2. Andrzej Sapkowski, The Last Wish
- 3. Alex Michaelides, The Silent Patient
- 4. Ann Patchett, The Dutch House
- 5. Jojo Moyes, The Giver of Stars

NONFICTION – MOST READ

- 1. Malcolm Gladwell, Talking to Strangers
- 2. Michelle Obama, Becoming
- 3. Gregg Olsen, If You Tell: A True Story of Murder, Family Secrets, and the Unbreakable Bond of Sisterhood
- 4. Tara Westover, Educated
- 5. James Clear, Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones. Like using ampersands instead of spelling out "and"?

NONFICTION – MOST SOLD

- 1. Philip Rucker & Carol Leonnig, A Very Stable Genius: Donald J. Trump's Testing of America
- 2. Malcolm Gladwell, Talking to Strangers
- 3. Jocko Willink, Leadership Strategy and Tactics
- 4. Gregg Olsen, If You Tell: A True Story of Murder, Family Secrets, and the Unbreakable Bond of Sisterhood
- 5. James Clear, Atomic Habits: An Easy & Proven Way to Build Good Habits & Break Bad Ones

Source: Amazon.com

Upcoming Books

FEB. 11

John Eldredge, Get Your Life Back: Everyday Practices for a World Gone Mad
Jory John and Pete Oswald, The Great Eggscape!
Kristina Kuzmic, Hold On, But Don't Hold Still: Hope and Humor from My Seriously Flawed Life
Randy Wayne White, Salt River: A Doc Ford Novel

FEB. 18

Charles Finch, The Last Passenger: A Charles Lenox Mystery
Meg Gardiner, The Dark Corners of the Night
Mark Greaney, One Minute Out: A Gray Man Novel
Brian Greene, Until the End of Time: Mind, Matter, and Our Search for Meaning in an Evolving Universe
Dr. Joseph Mercola, EMF*D: 5G, Wi-Fi & Cell Phones – Hidden Harms and How to Protect Yourself
Dan Pfeiffer, Un-Trumping America: A Plan to Make America a Democracy Again
Simone St. James, The Sun Down Motel

FEB. 24

James Patterson and James O. Born, Blindsight

FEB. 25

Erik Larson, The Splendid and the Vile: A Saga of Churchill, Family, and Defiance During the Blitz
Rachel Mansfield, Just the Good Stuff: 100+ Guilt-Free Recipes to Satisfy All Your Cravings: A Cookbook
Colum McCann, Apeirogon: A Novel
Suze Orman, The Ultimate Retirement Guide for 50+: Winning Strategies to Make Your Money Last a Lifetime

MARCH 3

C.J. Box, Long Range: A Joe Pickett Novel
Cassandra Clare, Chain of Gold: The Last Hours
Louise Erdrich, The Night Watchman
Linda Sarsour, We Are Not Here to Be Bystanders: A Memoir of Love and Resistance
Carrie Underwood, Find Your Path: Honor Your Body, Fuel Your Soul, and Get Strong with the Fit52 Life

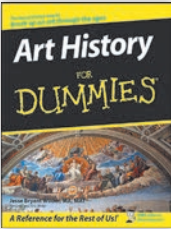
Source: Amazon.com

Book Clubs

THURSDAY, FEB. 6

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Art Center, Fort Walton Beach, 5-6 PM
artsdesignsociety.org
The group discusses Jesse Bryant Wilder's Art History for Dummies.



WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

DESTIN SENIOR BOOK CLUB

Destin Library, 10 AM
Call 850-654-5184 for more info.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19

SUNDOG DAYTIME BOOK CLUB

Bud & Alley's Pizza Bar, Seaside, 10 AM
Sundogbooks.com

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

SUNDOG SUNSET BOOK CLUB

Sundogbooks.com
Black Bear Bread Co., Grayton Beach
The club follows Oscar-winning actress Reese Witherspoon's monthly picks.

If your book club isn't listed here, it's because you forgot to send us the info. Make things right by emailing chris@beachcomberdestin.com!

Oscars, Schmoscars... Here Are This Year's Biggest Snubs

By Chris Manson

The Oscars air on ABC Sunday, **Feb. 9**, at 7 PM. I don't see as many movies as I used to, but I did manage to catch three of the nine Best Picture nominees—Noah Baumbach's *Marriage Story*, Martin Scorsese's *The Irishman*, and Quentin Tarantino's *Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*.

They were all first rate, and thanks to Netflix for making those first two available to fit my preferred method of movie watching—15-minute increments, subtitles loaded. The latest Tarantino epic is up for grabs on DVD/Blu-ray/etc. and you'll need to sock away a couple weeks to watch it.

Parasite and *Joker* have already landed on most of the home viewing platforms, and *Ford v. Ferrari* and *Jojo Rabbit* are scheduled for release this month. *Little Women* and *1917* are still in theaters.

I hope to catch up with all of them at some point, but let's talk about a handful of glaring omissions among the 2019 nominees.

BEST ORIGINAL SONG

Happy that Elton John and Randy Newman made the cut, for *Rocketman* and *Toy Story 4*, respectively. But if ever a song was indelibly tied to its movie, it would be Sturgill Simpson's theme from *The Dead Don't Die*. Jim Jarmusch's zombie comedy makes excellent use of the tune, notably during an argument between small town law enforcement officers Bill Murray and Adam Driver.

And I would argue that Mr. Driver's performance in this movie is as good

as—if not better than—his Best Actor-nominated turn in *Marriage Story*.

Speaking of which...

BEST ACTOR

Either the Academy hates Adam Sandler or they didn't bother to see *Uncut Gems*. Or they confused him with Adam Driver. But whether you like the movie or not—and, yes, it's stressful as hell, could've used a Hollywood happy ending, etc. etc.—there is no denying that Mr. Sandler takes his craft to a whole 'nother level here.

A good actor lives inside their character's skin. A great actor makes the viewer live in that character's skin. That's what Mr. Sandler does in *Uncut Gems*, and by the time the lights came on, I was praying they had a working defibrillator in the theater lobby.

I haven't seen all five Best Actor performances, but... *Joker*? A comic-book movie?! They might as well have given that kid from *Shazam!* a nomination as well.

BEST DIRECTOR

Little Women is up for Best Picture, so shouldn't director Greta Gerwig have gotten the Best Director slot that went to the guy that helmed...a comic book movie?!

OTHER OVERSIGHTS AND OBSERVATIONS

Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood should be up for Best Film Editing. That movie could have been much, much longer, you know.

Jordan Peele, who wrote and directed the Best Original Screenplay winning *Get Out*, made an even better



Adam Sandler in the Safdie Brothers' *UNCUT GEMS*. Why is this man not up for Best Actor?

movie in 2019—*Us*, which got zero nominations. Catch it on HBO, and good luck getting to sleep.

I will not be watching the awards ceremony, as I am still trying to find time to screen the 2018 winner for Best Picture, *Green Book*. It's waiting patiently on my DVR, along with about two-dozen other not-so-fresh movies.

OPENING SOON IN THEATERS

FEB. 7

Birds of Prey (And the Fantabulous Emancipation of One Harley Quinn). R-rated fun from DC Entertainment.

FEB. 14

Fantasy Island. Blumhouse's spin on the Ricardo Montalban TV "classic."

The King's Man. One fellow must race against time to stop the world's worst tyrants and criminal masterminds from destroying the world. Sounds like a great Valentine's flick.

The Photograph. Issa Rae, Chelsea Peretti, Courtney B. Vance, LaKeith Stanfield.

Sonic the Hedgehog. Just when we were about to forgive James Marsden for *Cats*...

FEB. 21

The Call of the Wild. Harrison Ford in the big-screen adaptation of Jack London's timeless classic.

Emma. Jane Austen's celebrated coming of age story.

FEB. 28

The Invisible Man. Elizabeth Moss in a new spin on H.G. Wells' tale.

Source: Metacritic.com

LOCAL FILM SCREENINGS

SATURDAY, FEB. 8

CATCH UP WITH THIS YEAR'S OSCAR NOMINEES FOR BEST PICTURE

New Vision Theatres, Grand Boulevard at Sandestin, Miramar Beach
850-502-8819

Following the previous Saturday's screenings of *Marriage Story*, *Jojo Rabbit*, *Ford v. Ferrari*, *Parasite* and *Joker*, watch the rest of this year's contenders for \$8.75 a pop. The Academy Awards will be announced **Feb. 9**.

Greta Gerwig's *Little Women*, 11 AM.
Martin Scorsese's *The Irishman*, 1:45 PM.
Sam Mendes' *1917*, 5:45 PM.
Quentin Tarantino's *Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood*, 8:15 PM.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 12

MICHAEL ENGLER'S "DOWNTON ABBEY"

Destin Library, 2 PM
850-837-8572

The beloved Crawleys and their intrepid staff prepare for a royal visit, with the expected scandal, romance and intrigue. FREE Snowbird Movie Matinee screening—first come, first served.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 19

DANNY BOYLE'S "YESTERDAY"

Destin Library, 2 PM
850-837-8572

Imagine...a world without the Beatles. Sounds like a horror movie to us! FREE Snowbird Movie Matinee screening—first come, first served.

WEDNESDAY, FEB. 26

JAMES MANGOLD'S "FORD V. FERRARI"

Destin Library, 2 PM
850-837-8572

An Academy Award nominee for Best Picture, the Matt Damon-Christian Bale film also earned an "A-PLUS" rating from Cinemascore audiences. FREE Snowbird Movie Matinee screening—first come, first served.

WHAT'S ON TV THIS MONTH

FEB. 6.

Briarpatch (USA). Senate investigator Rosario Dawson looks into the murder her homicide detective sister.

FEB. 9



HOMELAND
Homeland (Showtime). Claire Danes' award-winning series returns for its eighth season.

FEB. 14

High Fidelity (Hulu). A new adaptation of Nick Hornby's novel, following the 2000 John Cusack movie version.

FEB. 21

Hunters (Amazon Prime). Al Pacino leads a troop of Nazi hunters in 1970s New York. Executive produced by *Us* director Jordan Peele, always a sign of greatness.

FEB. 23

Better Call Saul (AMC). Season 5 of the *Breaking Bad* spinoff sees the return of DEA agent Hank Schrader.

Source: TheWeek.com

UPCOMING DVD/BLU-RAY/ VOD/ RELEASES

FEB. 11



Ford v. Ferrari. Matt Damon and Christian Bale star in James Mangold's crowd pleaser. An Oscar nominee for Best Picture.

In Fabric. Well-reviewed horror-comedy starring Marianne Jean-Baptiste.

FEB. 18



A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood. Kindness triumphs over cynicism. With Tom Hanks as Mister Rogers.

Disturbing the Peace. Acclaimed documentary about former Israeli soldiers and Palestinian fighters who come together as peace activists.

The Good Liar. Ian McKellen and Helen Mirren in a love story for the AARP crowd.

Jojo Rabbit. Taika Waititi's absurdist comedy divided critics and audiences, but still managed to snag some Oscar nods, including Best Picture.

Midway. War epic from the guy that brought us *Independence Day*.

21 Bridges. Crime drama with Chadwick Boseman as an NYPD detective on the hunt for a pair of cop killers.

FEB. 25



Color Out of Space. Nicolas Cage in an adaptation of H.P. Lovecraft's timeless classic.

Frozen II. Sequel to the Disney blockbuster.

Knives Out. Rian Johnson's star-studded whodunnit.

MARCH 3

Dark Waters. Attorney Mark Ruffalo takes on one of the world's largest corporations. Inspired by a true story. Directed by Todd Haynes.

Playmobil: The Movie. Animated action-adventure.

Queen & Slim. Daniel Kaluuya and Jodie Turner-Smith go on the run after being pulled over for a minor traffic infraction. Up to that point, it was the best first date ever.

Source: Metacritic.com

Upcoming Shows...and More

THURSDAY, FEB. 6

EMERALD COAST THEATRE COMPANY'S STORYTELLERS: DARRYL REUBEN HALL IN "DINNER WITH BOOKER T"
560 Grand Boulevard Upstairs, Miramar Beach, 7 PM
EmeraldCoastTheatre.org

Through song and dance, writer and star Hall recalls the joys and racial aftermath of Booker T. Washington's 1901 dinner at the White House.

Tickets are \$30 for adults, with senior, military and student discounts available. Purchase online or call 850-684-0323.

THURSDAY, FEB. 6- SATURDAY, FEB. 8

"CLUE ON STAGE"
Gretchen Nelson Scott Fine Arts Center, Lynn Haven, 7:30 PM
tickets.vendini.com
The classic board game comes to life. Directed by **Lois Carter**. Tickets start at \$12.

SUNDAY, FEB. 9

"BANDSTAND – THE TONY-WINNING BROADWAY MUSICAL"
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30 PM
Mattiekellyartscenter.org
Andy Blankenbuehler's high-octane musical about returning WWII soldiers' path to become America's next great musical superstars. Tickets are \$49.

"CLUE ON STAGE"
Gretchen Nelson Scott Fine Arts Center, Lynn Haven, 3 PM
tickets.vendini.com

TUESDAY, FEB. 11

"THE VIOLA! SONG CYCLE"
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30 PM
Mattiekellyartscenter.org
A new work about Pensacola's first African-American owned hospital and two women's pursuit of the American dream. Tickets are \$25 for adults, \$10 for students.

THURSDAY, FEB. 20

ACT4MYSTERY'S "FOUL PLAY ON THE FAIRWAY"
La Paz, Destin, Seating at 6:30 PM, Dinner and Show at 7 PM
Act4Mystery.com



Paula Hilton's latest comedic murder mystery original goes behind the scenes at a prestigious golf tournament...and someone is going to DIE! With **Jim Downum, Michelle Foley, David Smith, Mary Ann Troiano** and Beachcomber's own **Chris Manson**. Cost for dinner and show is \$34.95. VIP packages available. Call 850-862-2885 for more info.

LAUGH FOR THE TROOPS
4C BBQ, DeFuniak Springs
4cbbq.com
Enjoy food, drinks (not included in ticket price), and laughs with comedians **Ron Feingold** and **Ken Miller** in support of **Healing Tools for Warriors**. Adults only!

FRIDAY, FEB. 21

"JERSEY BOYS"
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30 PM
Mattiekellyartscenter.org
The acclaimed musical about Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons. Tickets are \$49.

FRIDAY, FEB. 28

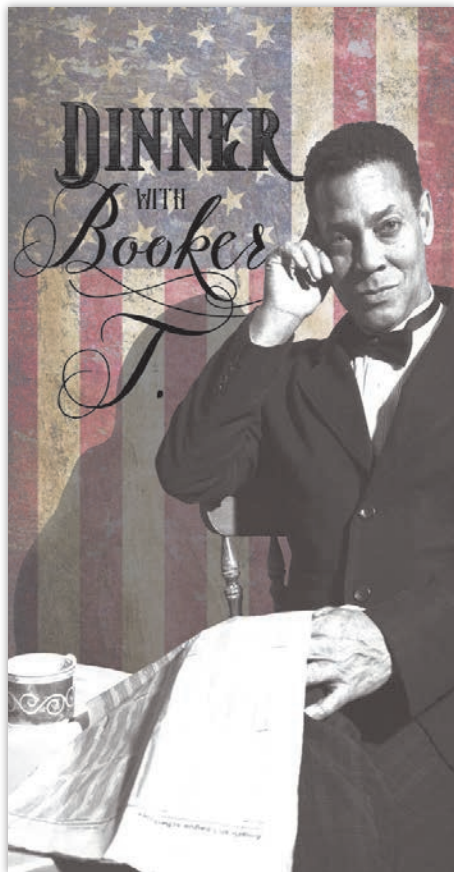
NORTHWEST FLORIDA BALLET'S "CINDERELLA"
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 7:30 PM
Mattiekellyartscenter.org



The classic fairy tale comes to life with the choreography of **Todd Eric Allen** and the music of **Sergei Prokofiev**. Tickets start at \$20.

SUNDAY, MARCH 1

NORTHWEST FLORIDA BALLET'S "CINDERELLA"
Mattie Kelly Arts Center, Niceville, 2:30 PM
Mattiekellyartscenter.org
Tickets start at \$20.



Darryl Reuben Hall stars in DINNER WITH BOOKER T at Emerald Coast Theatre Company Thursday, Feb. 6.



FEBRUARY 20TH - MARCH 1ST

Set in the small fictional town of Lenoraville, Alabama, Maytag Virgin tells the story of recently widowed Elizabeth Nash and her new next door neighbor, Jack Key.

Performances will be at 560 Grand Blvd, upstairs.



Tickets or info, call 850-684-0323 or visit
EMERALDCOASTTHEATRE.ORG



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ART CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

ARTESANO BOUTIQUE, 180 Miracle Strip Parkway, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-244-4222 for more info, and register for classes at [facebook.com/aresanoboutiquehandmade](https://www.facebook.com/aresanoboutiquehandmade). Prices for classes vary based on material costs and time.

Feb. 9. Intro to Silversmithing Workshop with Elysian Jewelry Designs.

Feb. 19. Stained Glass, Part 1.

Feb. 21. Stained Glass, Part 2.

Feb. 23. Block Printing Textiles with Anne Hall.

March 4. Batik on Silk.

March 11. Ceramic Wall Hanging.

March 15. Jewelry Making with Feeding My Flame Creations.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY (ADSO) Classes at the Art Center, Fort Walton Beach. More info at artsdesignsociety.org.

Mondays and Wednesdays. Clay and Pottery Open Studio, 9 AM-noon both days and 6:30-9 PM Mondays. Beginners welcome. Cost for morning classes with **Pat Basque** and **Sherry Cooler** is \$15 (\$12 for ADSO members). Cost for Monday evening class with **Marcy Eady** is \$15 (\$12 for ADSO members). Materials and firing included.

Tuesdays. Art for Children Ages 6-12, 4-5:30 PM. **Marcy Eady** teaches about the masters and their styles using principles of basic drawing, painting and sculpture. Media vary each week. Cost per month is \$70 (\$60 for ADSO members). All supplies included.

Tuesdays. Oil Painting with Dale Gauvin, 9 AM-1 PM. Learn the Chiaroscuro technique favored by the old masters. Cost is \$90 (\$80 for ADSO members).

Tuesdays. Open Studio, 7-9:30 PM. Bring your own supplies (no pottery) and work with other Beachcomberland artists. Cost is \$12 (\$10 for ADSO members). Call Marcy at 850-585-4967 by 5:30 p.m. to ensure access.

Feb. 13. Sip and Paint Class with Pat Z. Roberts, 6:30-8:30 PM.



Cost is \$40 (\$35 for ADSO members), all supplies included. The theme of this session is "Seascape with Palm Trees." Bring your sip of choice and enhance your skills.

Feb. 19. Pottery with a Purpose with Charlotte Snyder, 5:30-7:30 PM.

Cost is \$20 (\$17 for ADSO members), materials and firing included. The project for this session is Tea Pot, and it's geared towards beginners as well as anyone wishing to brush up on their skills.



CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY, 3925 West County Highway 30A, Santa Rosa Beach. Call 1-844-5-CHROMA or visit www.CHROMA30A.com for more info.

DE'FRANCE INDOOR FLEAMARKET, ANTIQUES & COLLECTIBLES, 230 Eglin Parkway SE, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-314-7500 to register. More info at defranceantiques.com.

Feb. 20. Furniture Painting Workshop, 6-8 PM. Bring an end table, small dresser, foyer table, etc. and Mark will help you complete your piece using Maison Blanche Vintage Furniture Paint. Workshop fee is \$75 and includes all paint, sandpaper, wax and personal instruction.

Feb. 28. Sign Painting Workshop, 6:30-9 PM. Join Anissa from Vintij Beach, and choose from one of her many signs...or have her create a custom sign just for you. Cost is \$40 for a standard sign (\$50 for standard double board) and \$50 for a custom sign single board (\$60 for double board). Advance payment requested.

HERITAGE MUSEUM OF NORTHWEST FLORIDA, 115 Westview Avenue, Valparaiso. Call 850-678-2615 or visit Heritage-Museum.org to sign up or for more info.

HH ARTS, 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-218-2155 to register for classes.

Feb. 29. How to Launch an Online Store with Jon Murdough, 10:30 AM. Bring your laptop and you can have a fully functioning shop by the end of class. Cost is \$20 per person. Purchase tickets at nebulaterminal.eventbrite.com.

Feb. 29. Commercializing Your Artwork with Print on Demand Services with Jon Murdough, 1 PM. Learn to utilize Shopify and print on demand services to produce your artwork on any type of product. Bring your laptop. Cost is \$20 per person. Purchase tickets at nebulaterminal.eventbrite.com.

March 7. Cherry Blossom Impressionist Ink Class with Jon Murdough, 10:30 AM. Create a Cherry Blossom painting utilizing inks from nontraditional painting methods. Cost is \$35 per person. Purchase tickets at nebulaterminal.eventbrite.com.

Supernova Impressionist Ink Class with Jon Murdough, 1 PM. Cost is \$35 per person. Purchase tickets at nebulaterminal.eventbrite.com.

THE SHARD SHOP in the Shops of Grayton, Grayton Beach. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Open Mon.-Sat., 9:15 AM-4 PM. Classes daily. Adult classes, 9:30 AM. All ages classes at 11 AM, 1:30 and 3 PM Classes last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. All skill levels welcome. Adults start at \$85, kids at \$40. Sign up online at ShardShop.com or call 850-231-0544.

VELIA LALA DESIGNS, 310 Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach. Call 850-362-6204 for more info.

ART EVENTS

THROUGH FEB. 14. ROSEMARY BEACH SCULPTURE EXHIBITION

The second biennial juried art show of contemporary outdoor sculpture along Scenic Highway 30A includes 16 sculptures by 16 artists. More at rosemarybeachsculpture.com.

THROUGH FEB. 19. ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY'S (ADSO) "DRUNK IN LOVE" SHOW AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH
Artists interpret the crazy things people do for you-know-what.

FEB. 19. MATTIE KELLY ARTS FOUNDATION "LOVE FOR THE ARTS" GUILD LUNCHEON AT THE EMERALD GRANDE, HARBORWALK VILLAGE



The event, featuring guest speaker **Wendy Rodrigue**, takes place in the Emerald Ballroom from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Ms. Rodrigue, a Fort Walton Beach native, will discuss the life and legacy of her late husband George. Cost is \$50 (\$40 for MKAF members) and includes plated lunch, beverage and program. Seating is limited. Purchase tickets at www.eventbrite.com.

FEB. 21-23. THE 61ST ANNUAL BEAUX ARTS EXHIBITION AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH

Exhibition and silent art auction Friday, noon-4 PM; Saturday, 10 AM-4 PM; and Sunday, 1-4 PM. Reception Sunday, 2-4 PM, with awards given at 3:30. More at www.artsdesignsociety.org.

OPENS FEB. 24. VAN PORTER STUDENT ART SHOW AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH

The exhibit runs through **March 6** and showcases outstanding artwork from students in grades 8 through 12. Reception Thursday, **Feb. 27**, 5-7 PM. More at www.artsdesignsociety.org.

FEB. 26. ADSO MONTHLY LUNCHEON AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH



Join award-winning artist **Priscilla Bonjour** at 11:30 AM. She'll talk about "Perseverance in Art." Cost is \$12 if you make your reservations by Monday, **Feb. 17**; after that, it's \$15. Call 850-244-1271 or email adsorsvp@gmail.com.

FEB. 29. ADSO MARDI GRAS CARNIVAL PARTY AT THE ART CENTER, FORT WALTON BEACH

From 4 to 6 PM, let the good times roll with games, New Orleans food, and live music by Beachcomber Music Awards Hall of Famer **Bill Garrett**. Admission is FREE, with a \$5 charge for dinner and a cash donation for beverages.

Dinner will include, AMong other things, red beans and rice, jambalaya, and King Cakes.

OPENS MARCH 1. TERRI WESTBROOK EXHIBIT AT THE COASTAL BRANCH LIBRARY, SANTA ROSA BEACH



Terri Westbrook at work.

Ms. Westbrook says, "I love making art. It is like meditation to me. I have decided to share my work with the world because I finally have enough confidence that enough people 'get' and appreciate what I make. I hope enjoy these pieces that come from my heart." Meet the artist Saturday, **March 7**, from 3 to 5 PM.

ART GALLERIES

ADARO ART features works from 2015 South Walton Artist of the Year Juan Francisco Adaro, as well as other well-known local and international artists. Open daily from 10 AM to 5 PM. Located at 21 Hub Lane, Watersound, 561-985-5767. Email adaro.art@gmail.com or visit adaroart.com for more info.

ARTS AND DESIGN SOCIETY Features art shows by local and regional artists. Open afternoons Tuesday through Saturday. Shows change monthly. Art classes and workshops in various media. 17 First Street SE, Fort Walton Beach. 850-244-1271. www.artsdesignsociety.org.

CHROMA STUDIO & GALLERY features the art of South Walton's 2018 Artist of the Year **Kathleen Broaderick**. Browse Kathleen's original oil paintings in the gallery or take a boutique paint class in Kathleen's studio. Kathleen offers oil painting workshops featuring her energetic, loose and colorful style, as well as acrylic paint classes for artists and non-artists alike. The CHROMA Studio & Gallery is a place where guests will feel comfortable expressing themselves and finding joy in art. CHROMA is located at 3925 West County Highway 30A in Santa Rosa Beach (just west of Goatfeathers restaurant). Visit www.CHROMA30A.com or call 1-844-5-CHROMA for more information.

HH ARTS offers works for sale from local artists in all mediums. There are many award-winning artists displayed in oil, acrylic, encaustic, collage, clay, handmade candles, and handmade jewelry designs in glass, leather and Victorian style. Studio space available for artists at reasonable rates. An outdoor area is also available for plein air painting or classes, with lighting and overhead covering. There will be classes offered for children and adults. Located at 100 Beal Parkway SW, Fort Walton Beach (three blocks off 98, across from Troy University). Open Tue.-Sat., 10 AM- 3 PM. For more info, call 850-218-2155 and "like" HH Arts on Facebook. Follow us on Instagram.

THE JUSTIN GAFFREY GALLERY features the coastal contemporary paintings and sculptures of local artist Justin Gaffrey. Visit the gallery to browse through Justin's coastal landscape,

Valentine’s Day, Winter Power Washing, and Weird Emails

By Dawn Bright

Dear Dawn,
I have a screen-enclosed pool. I keep the decorative concrete around the pool sparkling in the spring, summer and fall, but as soon as winter comes it gets covered with mold, mildew and dirt. It’s too cold to power wash in the winter, but I hate looking at it like this during the winter months. What should I do?
- Sam S., Destin

This is a tough question, Sam. Everything I’ve read about this subject says you do need to power wash at least once a year, and that most people do that in the spring to ready the area for the upcoming months. If you’re a do-it-yourselfer like I am, you own your own power washer and take care of all that yourself. You could hire a professional to do it in the winter months, as they have the correct outerwear for the work, or you could watch for a somewhat “warm” day and try doing it yourself then.

I guess the bottom line is there’s no magic answer for keeping the area

clean in the winter. My other solution to the problem is to make sure I only invite company over at night, and we stay indoors. If you can’t see it, it’s not there, right?

Dear Dawn,
I get a lot of weird emails. Today, for instance, I got one with the subject “Veggies that DRAIN your energy,” “This simple sock will CHANGE your life,” and “Thump, Thump, THUMP.” Isn’t it astounding all the ridiculousness that exists these days?
- Aretha F., 30A

At first I thought your question was about junk email, Aretha, but I realize it’s really about the ridiculousness, or dark side, of humanity. Although we hate to admit it, this dark side naturally exists. With all the research that’s been done on the subject, it’s literally impossible to narrow all those conclusions down into the one or two sentences I have room for here. I will say, though, the general consensus is that as human beings, by acknowledging and understanding our shortcomings we can more successfully overcome them.

So, yes! It is astounding, but those ridiculous behaviors can be changed if you put your mind to it. That’s a good thing about being human!

Dear Dawn,
Here comes Valentine’s Day, and I’m still single. I hate feeling so negative about a day that is simply about celebrating love, but I can’t help it! Any advice?
- Jennifer A., WaterColor

I completely understand how you feel, Jennifer. If you aren’t in a happy, healthy relationship, it’s only natural to feel annoyed about all the sweet nothings everyone else is getting. But you nailed it on the head when you said it’s a “day that

is simply about celebrating love.” So love yourself!

Make plans to go out, treat yourself to a massage or a meal at your favorite restaurant, or better yet, do something loving for someone else. Make dinner for your parents or offer to babysit for a friend or family member so they can go out. Anything you can do to feel the love will make it a special day, even if you don’t have a significant other of your own. And, from me to you, Happy Valentine’s Day!

Dawn Bright is a longtime resident of the Emerald Coast and an eternal optimist. And that’s pretty much all you need to know about her. Email your questions to office@beachcomberdestin.com.

Art CONTINUED...

floral, and still-life paintings or stroll through the sculpture garden to view the various welded steel sculptures. Justin is most recognized for his heavily textured, heavy bodied acrylic, palette knife paintings of the local landscape, florals, and wildlife. The Justin Gaffrey Gallery is located at 21 Blue Gulf Drive along Scenic highway 30A in Blue Mountain Beach. Visit justingaffrey.com or stop by the gallery Monday through Saturday from 10 AM to 6 PM. Follow the Justin Gaffrey Gallery on Facebook and Instagram to see Justin’s most recent creations.

MARY HONG GALLERY Located in Grayton Beach (Shops of Grayton). Mary Hong, the 2014 South Walton Artist of the Year, has been featured in over 10 publications and has appeared on Emeril’s Florida TV show and HGTV’s House Hunters. Mary’s take on glass art incorporates the use of repurposed glass on painted canvas. Gallery is open seven days a week. 850-231-1416. MaryHongStudio.com

MATTIE KELLY ART GALLERIES AT NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE The Arts Center Galleries at Northwest Florida State College in Niceville encompass two galleries showcasing 20 different international, national and regional exhibitions yearly, which are unique to this region. Viewing hours are Monday through Thursday, 10 AM to 4 PM. Visit www.mattiekellyartscenter.org or call 850-729-6044.

THE SHARD SHOP is a friendly, Make-Your-Own-Art Boutique with three locations: Grayton Beach (Shops of Grayton), Destin (next to Ulta and Michaels), and—during summers only—the Village of Baytowne Wharf. ShardWorx is a new way of making art with glass and resin on a painted surface. Visit ShardShop.com to sign up online and view class schedules. Classes are daily, last about an hour, and all materials are provided. Artwork is ready the day after class. Visit us for events, art parties and fundraising! All skill levels

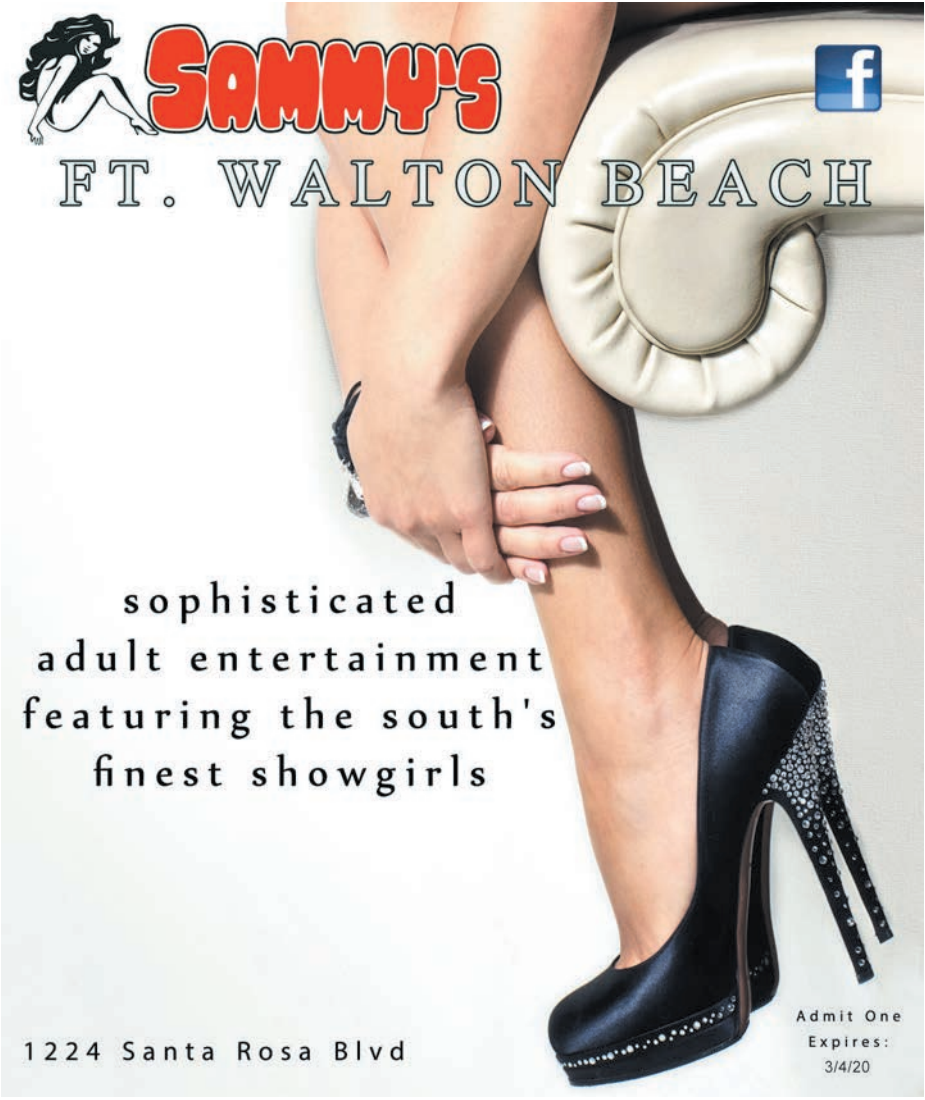
welcome. Adults start at \$85, kids at \$40. Sign up online at ShardShop.com, or call Grayton at 850-231-0544 or Destin at 850-842-4440.

VELIA LALA DESIGNS features works from award-winning Velia Lala as well as other local artists working in a multitude of mixed media. The Design Center is one of the few unique gift boutiques left in our area. As well as showcasing her art and that of others, Velia has a great selection of her art printed textile line, clothing and hand embellished jackets. Velia Lala Designs has expanded their offerings this year to include “The Art of Walls,” which is a form of creating faux finishes for those one of a kind special accent walls or entire room changes. The biggest part of the Design Center houses her two studio spaces where you’ll find Velia creating her own art as well as conducting ongoing art classes for the public. 310 Eglin Parkway, Fort Walton Beach, 850-362-6204.

THE ZOO GALLERY Created in 1979. Locally owned small business. We focus on quality, handcrafted work by hardworking artists. Our galleries showcase an eclectic range of curated artwork from all over the country, a jewelry collection like no other, plus unique clothing lines for women with soul. We keep a sense of wonder. We stand out from the herd. Located in Grayton Beach across from the Red Bar and in Grand Boulevard at Sandestin. #standoutfromtheherd thezoogallery.com

CALL TO ARTISTS

Arts and Design Society’s 61st Annual Beaux Arts Exhibition
All artists, ages 18 and older, are encouraged to submit their work. Entry fee is \$35 for two entries (\$25 for ADSO members); additional entry may be submitted for \$5, limit three total. Cash awards! Register at the Art Center in Fort Walton Beach Thursday, Feb. 20, 9 AM-noon. The show runs Jan. 28-Feb. 19. Copy of entry form and additional details at artsdesignsociety.org.



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AQUARIUS

JAN. 21 - FEB. 19



Harmony and understanding abound this month, Aquarius. Peace is guiding your planets, and some weird mystic revelation is going to be revealed. This all appears to have something to do with Valentine's Day. So try not to mess it up. No grand gestures are needed. Lower your eyes and behave with humility for a change, and maybe, just maybe, this Valentine's Day will be better than last year's. And the year before. And the year before. And the... well, you get the picture.

ARIES

MAR. 21 - APR. 20



This month is naturally full of love for you, Aries. Your generosity and positive attitude draw people towards you like a magnet, and ensure you will always be successful in your ventures. Your ability to share your emotions and embrace intimacy is nothing but a benefit, and your passion for life continues to inspire all. You are magical, Aries, just magical.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21



Slow down, Gemini. You are prone to making snap decisions this month, but those decisions will result in contradiction and more chaos. Planetary considerations point towards achieving your objectives, but only if you take your time in figuring out what the objectives are and coming up with a serious step-by-step plan to make it happen. And while you're deliberating, watch out for an old acquaintance who suddenly shows up with an offer you just can't refuse. Refuse it. Just sayin'...

LEO

JULY 23 - AUG. 23



Oh Leo, when are you ever going to learn? You can't always have your way. You just can't. But your my-way-or-no-way attitude really tends to put people off. It doesn't matter that the forward energy of the planets could help you this month, because your stubbornness and push-back tendencies will overcome all that positive planet energy. Poor Leo. Maybe next month, there will be some warmth from the planetary alliances, but not this month. You're just too stubborn.

LIBRA

SEPT. 24 - OCT. 23



You've never had any issues with low self-esteem, Libra, but because your planetary strength is in the western half this month, you'll be pumped up to an even higher level. And not only will life be full of closeness and cordiality, but romance will abound. Which is great since your favorite day of the year is Valentine's Day! Enjoy it. You'll be immersed in romance, love and passion. Enjoy it, Libra, because you deserve all of this and more.

SAGITTARIUS

NOV. 23 - DEC. 21



Sometimes I wish the planets weren't so prevalent in all this horoscope stuff, but unfortunately, planets are the name of the game. And the planets are spelling out disaster for you, Sagittarius. Disaster in the form of lackluster energy, inability to show any form of creativity, and a total absence of compatibility. Compromise isn't in your vocabulary this month, either. The only advice I can give you is to stay inside, don't tinker with anything electronic, and do not, under any circumstances, answer the phone after 7 PM.

PISCES

FEB. 20 - MAR. 20



Mars is sauntering through your door this month, Pisces, and it means it's time to step forward and meet a new sunrise. Seize the day! Lay off the deception and self-deprecation. It never does you any good anyway, because you're faking all that. Quit faking! Be real! And while you're doing all that, avoid crowds and anything with the number 6 involved. Also 20, 34 and 17. I wish I had better news, but it isn't me, it's Mars.

TAURUS

APR. 21 - MAY 21



Your eyes will be wide open this month, Taurus. Typically, your stubborn bullheadedness means your tunnel vision keeps you from seeing anything other than what's in your own tiny tunnel, but something's got ahold of you. It could be Mars trying to dictate your love life. Or possibly the planetary concentration in the northern sector. Either way, open your eyes and invite someone new into your life. The time is right!

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 22



Finally! The planets are favorably placed, Cancer, putting you in position to form a committed relationship this month. Get out and about! If you stay glued to your TV, it won't matter where the planets are—you'll still be lonely and bitter. All this change will make it an emotional month for you—the past six months have been fairly horrible, so it's natural to feel hesitation and dread where love is concerned. But give it a whirl! The planets move pretty regularly, so take advantage while you can.

VIRGO

AUG. 24 - SEPT. 23



After last month's new high, the news for February shouldn't be much of a surprise to you, Leo. You're in for another dismal ride. Harmony will go missing and you're going to have a lot of problems with family members, people of the opposite sex, friends and even strangers. It might be a good idea to lay low this month. Plan on spending Valentine's Day alone, too. But there's nothing wrong with buying your own box of chocolates and wallowing around in misery and self-loathing. It could actually help.

SCORPIO

OCT. 24 - NOV. 22



Wow, Scorpio. This month is a mess. There's no room for self-will or autonomy this month. No room for domination. You feel aggressive, but you need to squash that as quickly as possible. Cooperation is the name of the game, and all that aggression needs to be geared towards fitness and sports. Not WATCHING but DOING. It'll make you feel better. And if you feel better, you're less likely to lash out at those that are closest to you. It'll be a win-win, IF you can practice what we're preaching.

CAPRICORN

DEC. 22 - JAN. 20



Saturn is showing up for you this month, Capricorn, but it isn't a good sign. The normal buoyancy associated with Saturn is being thwarted by an overcrowding from other planets. For you, this means any goal you may have hoped to accomplish will not be accomplished. Any relationship you hoped would thrive will instead wilt. Emotional harmony and strength will disappear. It's not good. Hopefully, this trend will not continue. Saturn is always on the move, so we just need it to move out of your hemisphere!

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12Lee Buick
16The Local Market
29Rob Romans
2Saltwater Restaurants
38Sammy's
28Sandjam 2020
6Steve Ingram
3Tequila and Taco Fest
21The Village of Baytowne Wharf
9WUWF

MARDI GRAS



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 21

BIG EASY BAR CRAWL

Dress in your Mardi Gras best for a bingo style bar crawl! Pick up bingo cards at 6:30pm and return them by 9:30pm for a raffle drawing! Compete for the title of Mardi Gras King & Queen at Coyote Ugly starting at 10:00pm.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 22

PARADE & PAWDI GRAS

Live music by Fais Do-Do at 2:00pm followed by beads, dazzling floats, and street performers as the parade rolls at 4:00pm. Enter your pup in a spirited Pawdi Gras Pet Costume Contest after the parade! Registration at 5:00pm. *Do you and your Krewe want to be in the parade?* Email Events@HarborWalkVillage.com for more information.



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